

Inside

Victory Sports Series

FEBRUARY 1973

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Wrestling

**HOW PEDRO
BEAT ERNIE LADD—
AND ALMOST LOST
HIS TITLE DOING IT!**



SPECIAL BOOK-LENGTH FEATURE

THE STORY OF CHRIS COLT—

THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL MAN IN WRESTLING!

**RAY STEVENS—
WRESTLER ON THE
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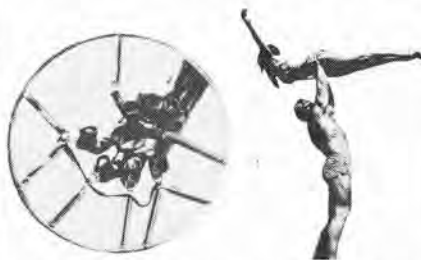
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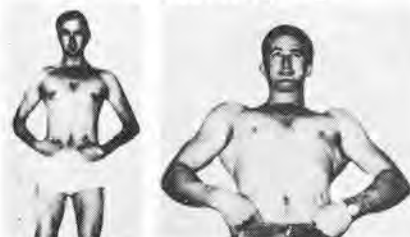
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F ☐ **SPECIAL BODY-POWER OFFER:** Two weeks of XR7 and PLAN, One Slim Gard Plus Free Gifts (a \$26.40 Value) all yours for just **\$17.98**

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OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

WORLD WIDE WRESTLING FEDERATION

- 1-PEDRO MORALES
- 2-BRUNO SAMMARTINO
- 3-RAY STEVENS
- 4-CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW
- 5-BLACK GORDMAN
- 6-BUDDY WOLFF
- 7-SONNY KING
- 8-THE SPOILER
- 9-TONY GAREA
- 10-EL OLYMPICO

AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

- 1-VERNE GAGNE
- 2-BILLY ROBINSON
- 3-IVAN KOLOFF
- 4-WAHOO MCDANIEL
- 5-DUSTY RHODES
- 6-DICK MURDOCH
- 7-RENE GOULET
- 8-LARRY HENNIG
- 9-DON MURACO
- 10-LANI KEALOHA

MIDGETS

- 1-LITTLE BEAVER
- 2-SKY LOW LOW
- 3-LORD LITTLEBROOK
- 4-LITTLE BRUISER
- 5-LITTLE BRUTUS
- 6-FRENCHY LAMONT
- 7-FARMER JEROME
- 8-HAITI KID
- 9-WEE WILLIE WILSON
- 10-BILLY THE KID



DEBBIE JOHNSON



ERNIE LADD

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

- 1-DORY FUNK JR.
- 2-ERNIE LADD
- 3-PAMPERO FIRPO
- 4-BOBO BRAZIL
- 5-PAT PATTERSON
- 6-THE SHEIK
- 7-PAUL JONES
- 8-JACK BRISCO
- 9-TERRY FUNK
- 10-LORD AL HAYS

TAG TEAMS

- 1-THE KANGAROOS
- 2-PROFESSOR TANAKA & MR. FUGI
- 3-THE BLACKJACKS
- 4-THE FARGOS
- 5-RAY STEVENS & NICK BOCKWINKLE
- 6-DUSTY RHODES & DICK MURDOCH
- 7-SONNY KING & CHIEF STRONGBOW
- 8-GOLIATH & BLACK GORDMAN
- 9-THE STOMPER & BEN JUSTICE
- 10-PAUL & JOE LEDUC

WOMEN

- 1-FABULOUS MOOLAH
- 2-VIVIAN VACHON
- 3-VICKI WILLIAMS
- 4-MARIA LAVERNE
- 5-SUE GREEN
- 6-DEBBIE JOHNSON
- 7-ANN CASEY
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- 9-NATASHA
- 10-DONNA CHRISTENELLO



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Yes, you too can have a body like "Mr. Perfect Physique" Saul NewYork (pictured above). He followed our HERCULES II Muscle Building Course for just a few short weeks and gained 3" on each arm, 4" on his chest and beefed up his legs, back and stomach muscles until he reached his present Super Build — a body good enough to win him the World's coveted "Mr. Perfect Physique" title.

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Just how big you build your body is entirely up to you. 10, 20, 30 pounds of solid muscle! You can do it! In fact any guy in normal health can do it.

JUST IMAGINE — IN A FEW SHORT WEEKS FROM NOW YOU WILL BE ABLE TO FLEX THOSE BULGING BICEPS AND YOUR FRIENDS WILL GASP IN ASTONISHMENT. Pick up a 6 inch spike, bend it effortlessly and hand it to your buddy. Invite him to straighten it. Knowing average guys, he won't be able to budge it, however red-faced he gets trying. Yes! Our New secret method can change your whole life. Why not follow in the steps of "Mr. Perfect Physique". Remember the sooner you send the order form at the bottom of this page, the sooner you will be helping yourself to a lion's share of rippling, healthy muscles bursting with power and explosive energy.

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"Hercules II has given me a new body - I never realised how easy it was to gain weight." T. Sandson

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S. Johnston

"I have gained 22 pounds of muscle in 30 days — I have put 4" on my arms — A million thanks to your New Hercules II program."

Bill Canning

"I was a skinny weakling — I just can't describe how much your course has done for me. The results have been amazing"

P.G. Roberts

"I feel great — Look 100% better. Can lift my father above my head"

J. Scott

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I think Pedro Morales is the greatest champion in wrestling. He has beaten every opponent he's faced. Some people just don't realize the greatness of this man. They call him a phony. Pedro has more strength and wrestling ability in one finger than most wrestlers have in their entire body. He is the greatest!

RICHARD SPARKS
Tresckow, Pa.

HURRAH FOR VILLAINS!

First of all, I want to say that **INSIDE WRESTLING** is the best wrestling magazine there is. Now, to get to the point, dirty wrestlers don't get enough praise. Men like Dick the Bruiser, Johnny Valentine, Mad Dog Vachon, Handsome Harley Race—my favorite—are the men who make wrestling so popular. I think the fans should get behind their favorite dirty wrestler and show them they are appreciated in this great sport.

GARY PILGER
Columbia, Mo.

HEY—HAYS!

I'm getting disgusted about all the junk you guys put in your magazine about Lord Al Hays. He's a lousy wrestler and a disgrace to the Western States title. You also make it seem like the Funks are good-for-nothing lousy creeps. Well, they're not! Also, why don't you put Terry in the ratings. He is a great wrestler and much better than Hays or The Sheik. Hays is a lousy, good-for-nothing creep!

LAURA SEDGWICK
Brush, Colo.

A GRIPER

I'd like to talk about two wrestlers. First of all, Jimmy Valiant. A recent letter from Danny Ram-



Pedro Morales (above) is the best of the champions, as far as one Pennsylvania fan's concerned. Another fan feels we're not doing enough stories about Mad Dog Vachon (right), John Valentine and Harley Race. Below: Lord Al Hays, says one reader, is a disgrace to the Western States Championship!



sey asked, "Who ever told Valiant he was handsome?" If you were wondering why Valiant doesn't get a blond stretch wig, it's because the present one is painfully obvious. Next, there's Billy Graham. I know that my home town, New York, has its share of weirdos. But you have to be from another planet to like Graham! Look, I'm a boy so I don't know anything about his known sex appeal, but when I see New Yorkers writing that "he has the most wrestling knowhow," or "he's the best wrestler in the United States," I could vomit. How could anyone who continually uses the services of the top rope and kicks his opponents in the kidneys have any knowhow

(Continued on page 62)



An Important Message To Every Man And Woman In America Losing His Or Her Hair

If you are troubled by thinning hair, dandruff, itchy scalp, if you fear approaching baldness, read the rest of this statement carefully. It may mean the difference to you between saving your hair and losing the rest of it to eventual baldness.

Baldness is simply a matter of subtraction. When the number of new hairs fail to equal the number of falling hair, you end up minus your head of hair (bald). Why not avoid baldness by preventing unnecessary loss of hair? Why not turn the tide of battle on your head by eliminating needless causes of hair loss and give Nature a chance to grow more hair for you? Many of the country's dermatologists and other foremost hair and scalp specialists believe that seborrhea, a common scalp disorder, causes hair loss. What is seborrhea? It is a bacterial infection of the scalp that can eventually cause permanent damage to the hair follicles. Its visible evidence is "thinning" hair. Its end result is baldness. Its symptoms are dry, itchy scalp, dandruff, oily hair, head scales, and progressive hair loss.

So, if you are beginning to notice that your forehead is getting larger, beginning to notice that there is too much hair on your comb, beginning to be worried about the dry-

ness of your hair, the itchy scalp, the ugly dandruff — these are Nature's Red Flags warning you of impending baldness. Even if you have been losing your hair for some time, don't let seborrhea rob you of the rest of your hair.

HOW COMATE WORKS ON YOUR SCALP

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keratolitic action it dissolves ugly dandruff. By tending to normalize the lubrication of the hair shaft it corrects excessively dry and oily hair. It eliminates head scales and scalp itch.

In short, Comate offers you in a single treatment the best that modern medicine has developed for the preservation of your hair. There is no excuse today except ignorance for any man or woman to neglect seborrhea and pay the penalty of hair loss.

COMATE IS UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED

To you we offer this UNCONDITIONAL GUARANTEE. Treat your scalp to Comate in your own home, following the simple directions. See for yourself in your own mirror how after a few treatments, Comate makes you look thicker and alive. How Comate ends your dandruff, stops your scalp itch. How Comate gives your hair a chance to grow. Most men and women report results after the first treatment, some take longer. But we say this to you. If, for any reason, you are not completely satisfied with the improvement in your own case — AT ANY TIME — return the unused portion for a prompt refund. No questions asked.

But don't delay. For the sake of your hair, order Comate today. Nothing — not even Comate — can grow hair from dead follicles. Fill out the coupon now, and take the first step toward a good head of hair again.

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Male pattern baldness is the cause of the great majority of cases of baldness and excessive hair loss. In such cases neither the Comate treatment nor any other treatment is effective.

Note To Doctors
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"I used to comb out a handful of hair at a time. Now I only get 4-6 on my comb. The terrible itching has stopped."
—L. H. M., Los Angeles, Cal.

"My hair has improved. It used to fall out by handfuls. Comate stopped it from falling out."
—D. M. W., Oklahoma City, Okla.

"My hair has quit falling out and getting thin."
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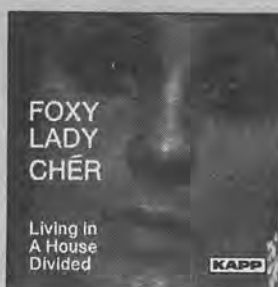
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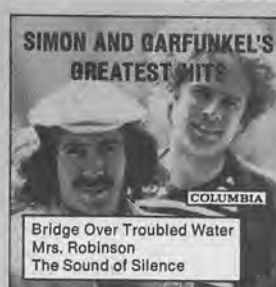
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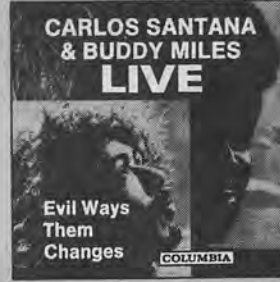
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NEWS FROM THE WRESTLING CAPITALS OF THE WORLD

UPSTATE NEW YORK ACTION

By Steve and Tim Johnson

BUFFALO'S WAR MEMORIAL Auditorium was the scene of a spectacular bout in which Johnny Valentine defended his National Wrestling Federation Heavyweight title against big Bobo Brazil. These two have had numerous wild battles across the country and this promised to be more of the same as Bobo vowed to win the title—and Valentine vowed to keep it!

Brazil put his 53-pound weight advantage to good use as he locked Valentine in crushing headlocks, bear-hugs and full nelsons. But as soon as Johnny saw an opening he went to work on Bobo and kicked to the groin. Brazil went wild! He decked the champ with a series of coco butts and then locked Valentine in a sleeper. Seeing how weakened Johnny was, Bobo applied a body press—seven times—only to be thrown off each time!

Disgusted, Bobo lifted him up and body-slammed him. But the champ fooled the big man when he got off his back and retaliated with a series of kicks and punches. Then, to top things off, Valentine lifted Bobo up and threw him over the top rope!

Bobo staggered on the arena floor trying to shake the cobwebs from his head. After a few seconds he climbed back onto the ring apron and as Johnny charged into him, to try and knock him back to the floor, he was met by a coco butt. Then he picked Johnny up, by the hair, and smashed his head into the steel turnbuckle. But Bobo forgot where he was. He was still on the ring apron and he was being counted out! The referee signaled for the bell. The count had reached "10" and Bobo had lost.

Brazil was so mad he gave Johnny so many coco butts it took the referee almost five minutes to revive him. Valentine left the ring badly bruised but still the N.W.F. champ.

Other top matches: Toni Parisi won by disqualification over Abdullah The



The Spoiler (above) tried to choke Chief Jay Strongbow with a towel and was disqualified. Below: Johnny Valentine smashes Bobo Brazil while bending him backwards on the ropes.



Butcher... Jacques Rougeau upset Baron Sicluna when the Baron couldn't get back into the ring by the "20" count... Bruce Swayze downed Bull Johnson... A 379-pound lady



Bobo Brazil lost his chance to win the N.W.F. title when he could not return to the ring by a count of 10. wrestler, Heather Feather, bearhugged Tanya West... The Fargos drew with Manny Soto and Jacques Rougeau... Ray Rougeau stopped Killer Lopez with a series of dazzling drop-kicks.

NEW YORK CITY NEWS By Joseph Mazza

An action-packed match was the headliner at Sunnyside Garden. It was a rematch between The Spoiler and Chief Jay Strongbow. The last time these two met the time limit ran out on the match. The Chief was really burnt up as he wanted to win a clear-cut decision over Lou Albano's man.

When the match began, the Chief
(Continued on page 58)

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FAN CLUB CORNER



Billy Robinson, number one contender for Verne Gagne's A.W.A. title, has a new fan club started by Donna Carter. The bulletin is crammed full of information.

tier is in Montreal, his Colorado fan club base always remains active. The club's fine bulletin keeps you up to date on Ed's matches. Rosie Macumber, the president, reports that she's still accepting new members. It's a top notch organization and you'll be glad you joined. The address is 221 Jasper Drive, Security, Colorado 80911. The Flying Frenchman is really proud of the work the club is doing for him.

You chaps who like Billy Robinson can give him your full support by joining the club Diana J. Carter started for him. Her address is 725 State Street, Union Grove, Wisconsin 53182. The bulletin includes such tidbits as club business, gossip, biographies and

WE'D LIKE TO inform you of three new and exciting fan clubs.

The first one honors the Texas Menace and the Hornet. They're the Dixie Coast tag team champs. The club is run by Jimmy Swicegood of Route 5, Box 1, Lexington, N.C. 27292. Members receive an 8x10 photo, bulletins six times a year, a membership card and a billfold-size photo. For further details send a self-addressed, stamped envelope, as you should with any fan club when requesting particulars.

Next we have the Worldwide Jumping Johnny DeFazio Fan Club. "Jumping John's Journal" is the name of the club's bi-monthly bulletin. Stan Galanski is the president and he can be contacted at 302 West Cherry Street, New Castle, Pa. 16102.

Caren Vickers has started a club for Chief Red Cloud. When you join this club you'll receive an 8x10 photo, a 5x7 photo, monthly bulletins and a drawing of the Chief and other stars he teams up with. Write to Caren for more information. Her address is 809 Library Avenue, Carnegie, Pa. 15106.

We're sorry to report Penny Green has discontinued her fan club for Brute Bernard and the Missouri Mauler.

Poor Missouri Mauler and Brute Bernard. First they were suspended in North Carolina. Then manager Homer O'Dell dropped them. And now they have even lost their fan club.



"The reason I must discontinue the club," Penny wrote, "is because the Mauler and Bernard were suspended from North Carolina and Homer O'Dell has dropped them from his management. Therefore, I have no way of keeping in touch with them as Bernard and Mauler have gone on a worldwide tour."

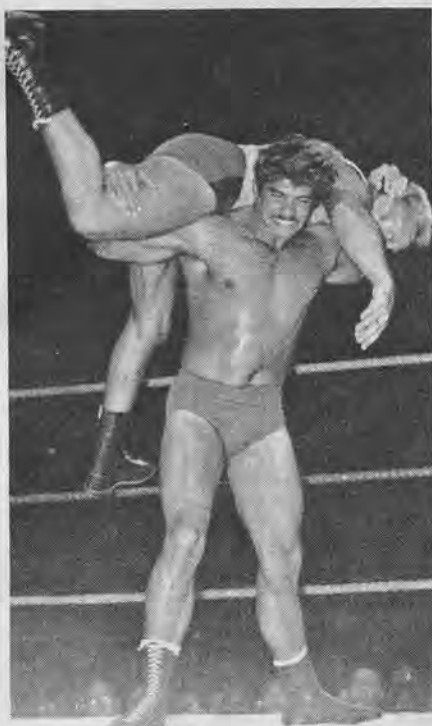
Dr. X, one of the most popular masked men, signed a permission slip giving Timm Carlson permission to run a fan club for him. If you'd like to join the club for the mysterious Dr. X, write to Timm at 2720 West Howard Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. 53221

Even though Edouard Carpen-

other interesting items. Join up today!

Joe Anthony of Radio KMAC, 509 Howard Street, San Antonio, Texas runs an honorary fan club for Johnny Valentine. There are no bulletins and there is no cost. Simply send Joe a self-addressed, stamped envelope and you'll receive a membership card stating you're a fan of Johnny's. Get in on the action. It's a great deal.

Lars, Ole and Gene, The Anderson brothers, rarely team up, and yet Pam Daniels has managed to get them together in fan club style. She's the president of their fan club and it's a very exciting one at that. Pam sends members,



Rough Ray Stevens (above) and colorful Don Muraco (left) are lucky to have fan clubs run by Joe Pottigeiser and Bunny Conway, respectively.

upon joining, a membership card, three wallet photos, an 8x10 photo and bulletins whenever possible—usually three or four per year. To join, write to Pam at 544 Leonard Road, Norfolk, Virginia 23505.

"Aloha" is a very colorful Hawaiian word. Don Muraco is a very colorful Hawaiian wrestler and you can join his fan club by contacting Bunny Conway, 1579 South 72nd Street, West Allis, Wisconsin 53214.

"The Flying Redhead," Red Bastien, is being honored by two of his most loyal fans, Mathew Brager and Jim Fredricks. When

you join this club you'll receive a professionally printed 8x10 photo, a membership card with an action photo on the back and quarterly bulletins. The club's address is 911 Bell Avenue, Sheboygan, Wisconsin 53081.

One of the best established clubs in fan club circles is the Ray Stevens club. Joseph Pottigieser is the president and he'll keep you up to date on Ray's action all over the country. Joe also keeps you posted on action in various parts of California. Write today to 3463 Ravendale Court, San Jose, California 95111 for full details.

Linda Thacker is always anxious

to hear from prospective members for her Jackie Fargo Fan Club. Her address is 1382 South 6th Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40208. Members receive an 8x10 photo, a membership card, a button saying "I'm On Jackie's Team," and a monthly bulletin called "The Fargo Fantasy."

If you're a big fan of Jack and Jerry Brisco you'll be sure to join the great club Wayne Lebo runs for them. Their bulletin, "The Oklahoma Cyclones," is chock full of biographies, games, interviews and gossip. Get in with the Brisco boys by joining. The club's address is 1825 Daytonia Road, Miami Beach, Florida 33141.

BULLETIN BANTER—"Tidbits from Toronto" is the name of Allan Howard's newsletter. It's crammed full of action and is published following every Maple Leaf Garden show. For information write 110 Inverlocky Blvd., Thornhill, Ontario, Canada... Mike Tenay's "Mat News" gives you gossip and results from all over the U.S.A. and Japan. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Mike at 8952 Mills Avenue, Whittier, California 90605. He'll clue you in on the details.

If you're interested in California's happenings you'll be sure to send for a copy of David Meltzer's "California Wrestling Report." It covers all the action in the Golden state. David's address is 6562 Winterset Way, San Jose, California 95120... You can learn about Jack Brisco's whereabouts every month if you get a copy of "The Jack Brisco Monthly." It's edited by Debby Crane of 1471 Breeze Lane, Melbourne, Florida 32935.

If news of the east coast is your bag you'll surely want to get your copy of "East Coast Wrestling Results." Steve Silverstein of 4006 Demont Road, Seaford, New York 11783, compiles all the information... Always a fine piece of work is the bulletin which comes from Stu Saks, 14 Mitchell Avenue, Plainview, New York 11803. His bulletin is called "Wrestling Results." It'll give you results from New York, Australia, Boston, Los Angeles and Philadelphia. Contact Stu for further information. □

"The Flying Redhead," Red Bastien, has lots of fans, and many of them are members of his top-notch fan club run by Matt Brager and Jim Fredricks.





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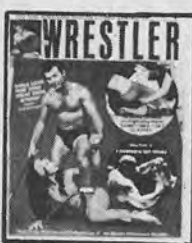
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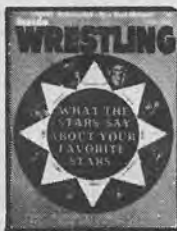
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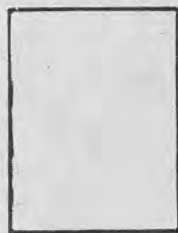
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Beautiful Sherri Lee She Gives Wrestling More Than She Receives

Whenever Sherri Lee tries to convince somebody she's a professional wrestler—they think she's putting them on. They simply can't believe anyone so gorgeous and feminine would risk it all in so violent a profession

IT WAS TWO O'CLOCK in the morning and Sherri Lee's high heeled shoes clickety-clacked along the deserted Miami sidewalk. Further down the street, a convention-type who had been hoisting a few too many spotted the shapely brunette.

Standing in the doorway of a bar, the drunk passed a few remarks as Sherri strode by. Resisting an impulse to clobber him, she just kept on walking. And as the bartender, who had recognized her, told the drunk—he was damn lucky she just kept walking.

"That beautiful dish," he said, "is a professional lady wrestler."

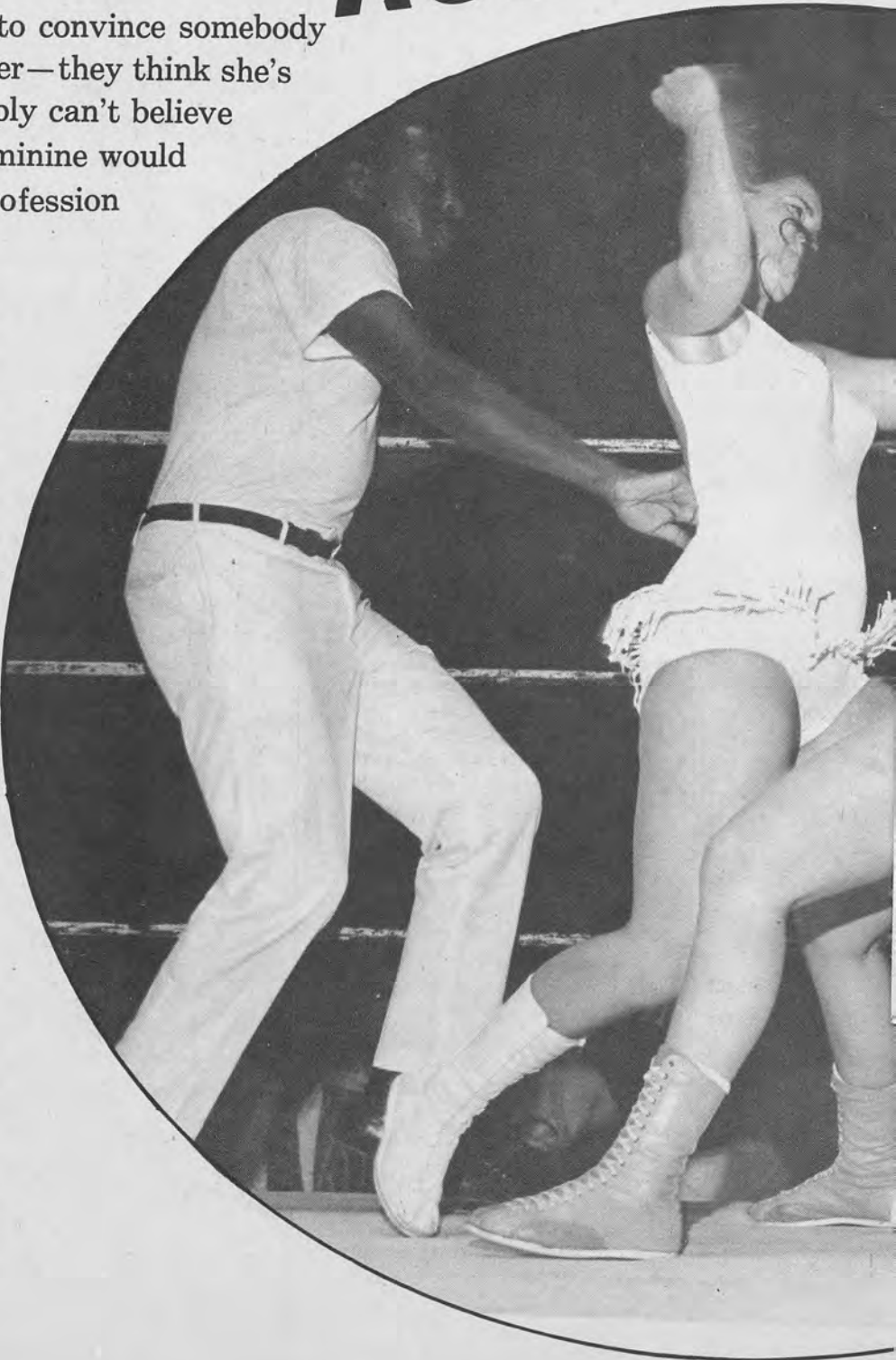
Of course, neither the drunk nor anyone else in the bar believed him. That doll? Why she's hardly more than five-feet-tall. And she can't weigh more than 110 pounds. She couldn't be a wrestler. Where's her busted nose? Where are all the scars?

Sherri takes all that as a compliment. She's used to it.

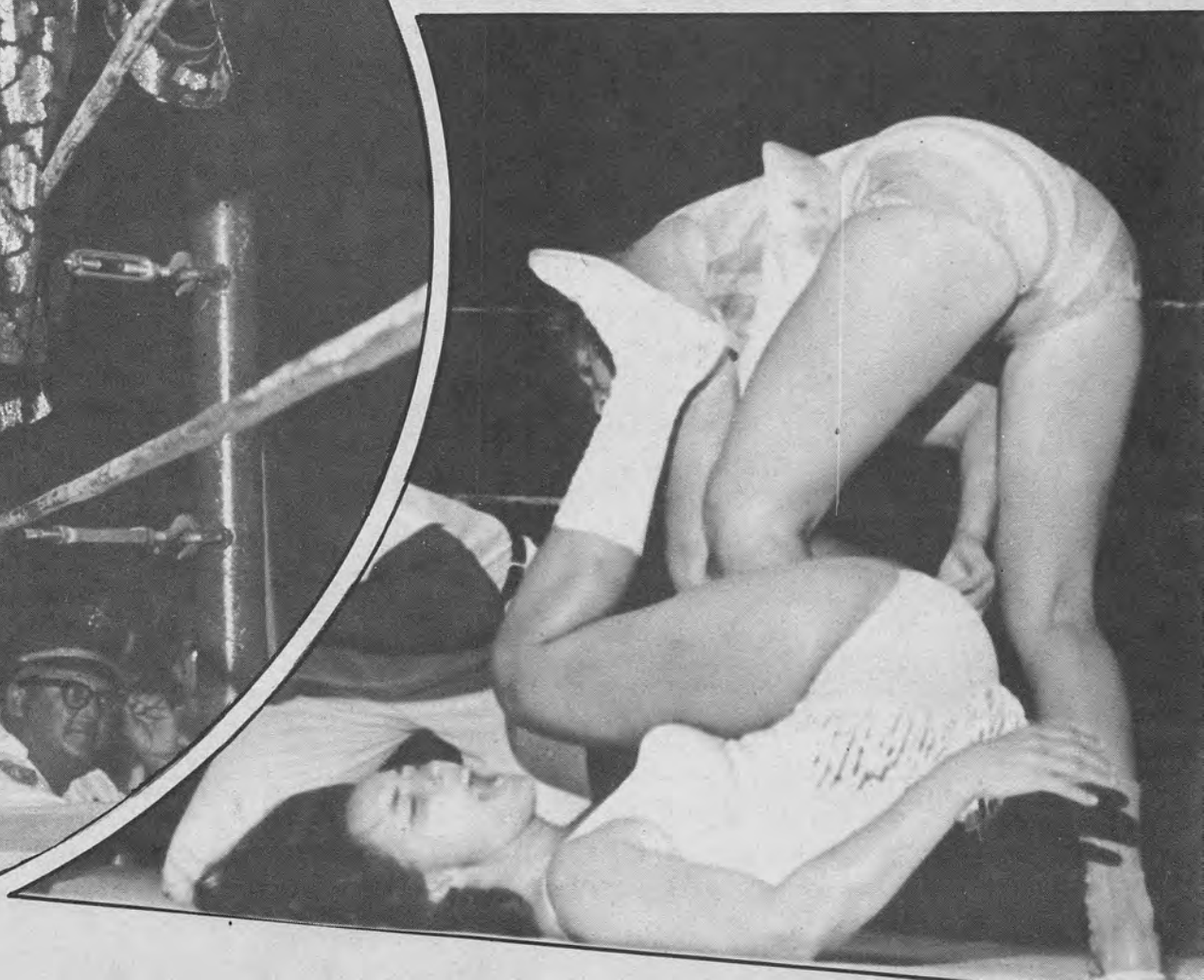
"Whenever I tell anyone who doesn't know me that I'm a professional wrestler they refuse to believe me. They expect wrestlers to look like gorillas with long hair. I admit I'm shorter than the average wrestler and perhaps I weigh a bit less. But still—they just won't believe me."

One look at Sherri in the ring, however, would turn the most cynical person into a believer. One night

(Continued on page 52)



Below: In a fit of rage,
Sherri overpowers Vivian
Vachon after Vivian had
attacked her before the bell.
Right: Sherri brings Vachon
to the mat with full nelson.
Below, right: Sherri is
caught in painful step-
over toehold by Vivian
during hectic bout at
Miami Beach.





Exclusive Photos
By Theo Ehret

What Makes Ripper Collins So Great?

HE SAYS IT'S A MATTER OF CLASS!

FEW WRESTLERS TAKE as much abuse as poor ol' Ripper Collins. Seeing him in his skin-tight wrestling duds, some have said, is like seeing a sausage bulging out of its wrapper.

Collins doesn't help the situation any either. The most recent addition to his wrestling wardrobe is a set of shocking pink tights with yellow and mint green flowers imprinted all over them. "He looks like an explosion in a flower garden," Dory Dixon said after seeing Collins in the new outfit.

There's a big difference between Ripper Collins and many of his opponents. He calls it class—he's got it and his opponents don't. Other wrestlers have been known to call it something else!

Ripper claims to be greatly disturbed at the criticism of his wardrobe. The insults don't bother him as much as his belief that other wrestlers look upon his outfits as a reflection of the man inside.

"They have no class," Ripper explained, talking about those who do not appreciate his colorful garb. "Just because they're slobs they think everyone else should be."

Collins' clothes have become such a hot topic of conversation they even led to the signing of a match—a match Collins wanted so he could avenge an insult to his wardrobe.

"Earl Maynard thought he could beat me because of the way I dress," Ripper gloatingly explained after he'd taken a decision from the former Mr. Universe. "He said anyone who dresses the way I do should be in the women's matches. I guess I showed him."

Ripper explained how the whole crazy story came about.

"That bum (meaning Maynard) came to Hawaii—where I'm the number one wrestler—and told all my fans he wouldn't wrestle anyone who'd wear pink tights with flowers all over them. I guess he was saying I was some kind of sissy or something. But when I challenged him to put his money where his mouth was—he ran back to California like a scared rabbit.

"I don't blame him for doing that. They let him hand pick his opponents in California. We don't do that in Hawaii, so all his lip about the way I dress was just an excuse for him to avoid wrestling me.

"Well, I don't take that bull from nobody. I called the promoter where Maynard was appearing and told him 'I want that man!'

"He tried to cover up for Maynard by saying he was booked for a few months and wouldn't have an opening for me. He offered me a whole bunch of other opponents... just to get me there, you know. That's the kind of drawing card I am.

"I told him 'nothing doing.' I wanted Maynard even if I had to wait a year.

"Finally, about five months later, the promoter called. 'One of Maynard's opponents called in sick and I need a substitute for tonight,' he said. 'Can you make it?'

You can't say that colorful Ripper Collins doesn't put every ounce of strength he has into every hold. And Earl Maynard is sure feeling the effects of Ripper's chinlock. Collins waited for five months to get a match against Maynard.

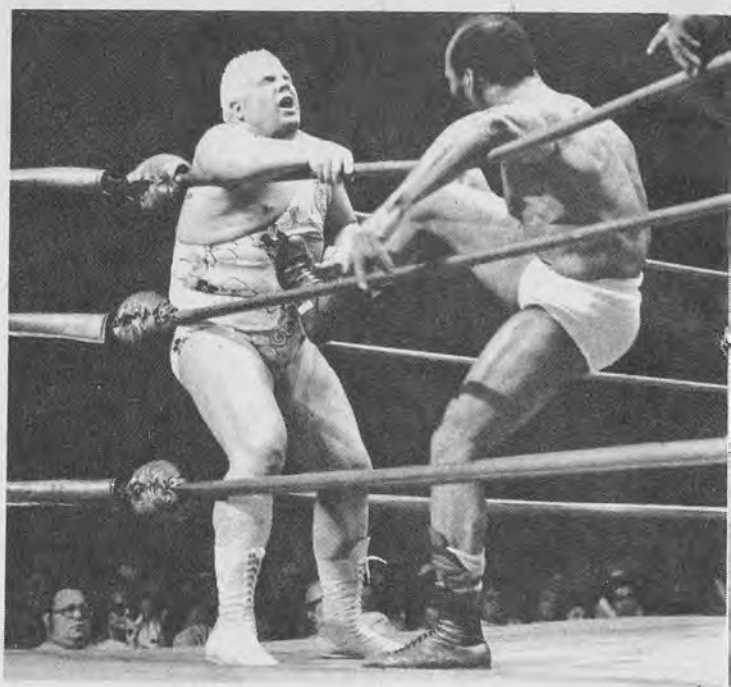


Ripper calmly explains to the referee that he's not doing anything wrong (left) as he chokes Maynard with his leg. Below: He lets Earl up—only to bring him down again.





Ripper's eyes are bulging (left) as he chokes Maynard with the ropes. Right: Maynard drives his leg into Collins' well-padded mid-section. Ripper says Maynard knows only three holds—"a choke, a kick to the stomach and an eye gouge." Below: Maynard shows Collins a move Ripper didn't specify as he nearly breaks his shoulder off.



"I told him I'd be there. In less than an hour I was packed and at the airport. As soon as I landed I took a cab to the arena. And...you know I wore my pink tights with flowers...just to drive that bum crazy. To make a long story short, I beat him so easy I didn't even work up a good sweat.

"Of course, the fans laughed at my outfit. That's what I can't understand. They cheer nickel and dime slobs like Maynard, yet when they see a real fashion plate...a man who keeps up with the times...they laugh.

"I don't know how many of your readers remember the late Gorgeous George. He was a perfect example of what I'm talking about. He'd come into the ring with beautiful, long, fur-trimmed robes, colorful trunks, and a valette. He had class. He had style. But the stupid fans figured 'this guy must be a sissy.' At the beginning they laughed. But nobody laughed when he wrestled. Once he got through with an opponent they never wanted to face him again. He showed them all, just like I do."

Ripper claims Maynard and wrestlers like him are simply jealous. He says they either don't have the money or the imagination to keep up with the latest styles. He accuses them of lacking class and says because they're so jealous they try to



get back at him with stupid stunts. He gave an example of what he meant, again involving Maynard.

"We were taping a TV interview in Honolulu," Collins recalled, "and Maynard told the announcer he had a trophy he wanted to present to me.

"I was surprised, but flattered. I figured this guy's finally come to his senses and is going to present me a trophy for being the most popular wrestler in Hawaii, or something like that.

"I go on camera to wait for the presentation. I even said 'I think this is a wonderful thing Mr. Maynard is doing.'

"Then that bum comes back and hands me the trophy 'on behalf of wrestling fans everywhere.' I thought that was kinda nice.

"Read the inscription," he says.

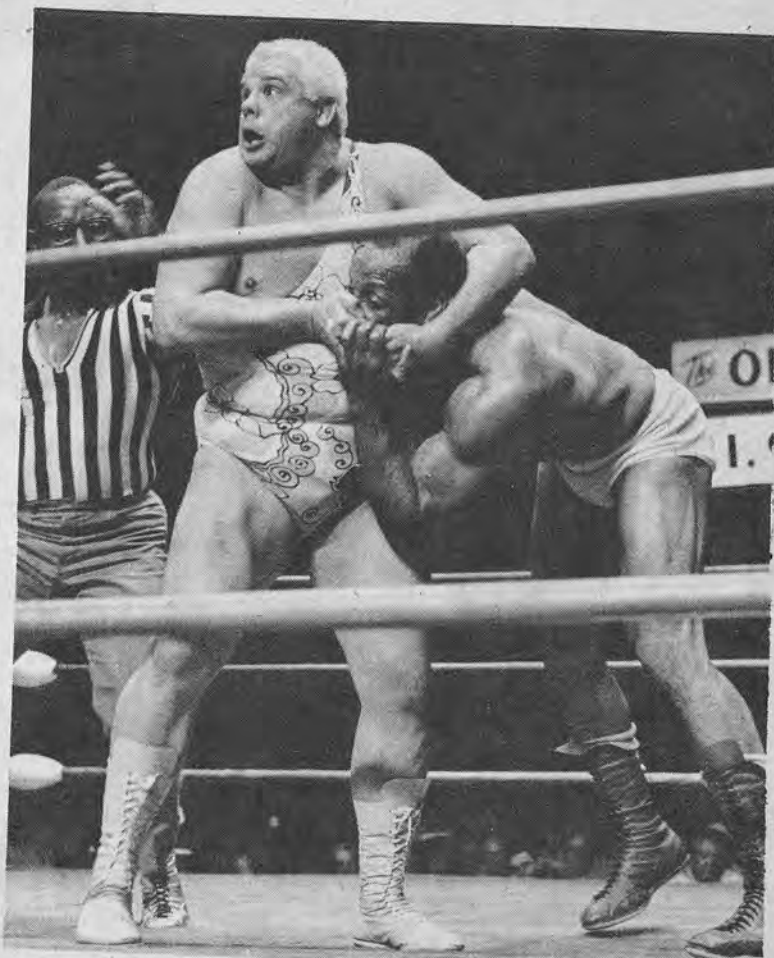
"So I did. *In honor of Ripper Collins,* it said, *the worst dressed professional athlete in the history of sports.*'

"The TV announcer immediately apologized. 'I'm sorry,' he said. 'I didn't realize he'd do something like that.'

"Meanwhile, Maynard is standing off to the side laughing to beat the band. He really thought it was funny. But I topped him.



Collins (above) squeals in pain from the effects of an Earl Maynard hammerlock. Now Ripper, is that a "class" way to act? Right: Out of trouble, Ripper's about to smash Earl head first into the corner, but Earl won't go.



Even a man's mustache isn't safe from the Ripper. Maybe Collins figures that if he closes his eyes while he works on Maynard the referee won't be able to see him. It won't work, Ripper.

"I called him back on camera and said 'Earl, you need this more than I do. Hock it for \$10 and buy yourself a couple of suits.' That shut him up.

"The following week they had to kill some air time so they interviewed Maynard again. That's the only time he gets on TV, you know, when they've got nobody else.

"I wouldn't wrestle a man who wears pink tights with flowers on 'em,' he says. Then, in a low voice, he says 'you know why.'

"That, my friends, was what did it. He was calling me a sissy right on TV. I immediately challenged

him to a match and he ran back to California. But as you saw, I caught up with him and made him pay for those remarks. It took me five months, but I made him pay."

Collins was far from finished on the subject of Earl Maynard. In fact, he was just getting warmed up.

"Compare me and Maynard outside the ring," he continued. "We've already seen there's no comparison inside. He's one of those guys who thinks he dresses real cool. But how can you be cool wearing hand-me-downs that didn't even cost \$15 when they were new? Maybe if he was a halfway decent wrestler he could

earn more than five bucks a match and get himself some decent clothes.

"What a laugh it is to see him walking down the street! His pants are baggy. His shoes are never shined. His suits are wrinkled. His shirt collars are frayed. He wears imitation jewelry. I know some drunks down at the Mission who dress better than he does. That's probably where he gets his clothes. He steals them from drunks sleeping in alleys!

"Now compare that to when the Ripper walks down the street. Everybody stops to look. Nothing less than \$300 custom made suits. I look sharp from head to toe. When I wear my black derby hat, my blue velvet dinner jacket and my satin blue pants, everybody turns his head. They say 'there goes a man with class!'

"Now let's get away from clothes and get to wrestling. Maynard's absolutely pathetic. Dull. Boring. And he thinks he's good! Of course his fans in California go along with him so he won't crack up.

"He knows three basic holds, a choke, a kick to the stomach, and

(Continued on page 65)

THE OUTLAWS HAVE REUNITED . . . BECAUSE THEY WERE GETTING TOO SOFT!



Dirty Dick Murdoch and Dusty Rhodes (with arm bandage each felt he was getting "too soft." Murdoch admitted he was even beginning to feel sorry for some of the opponents he was wrecking. Hardly sounds like ol' Dick.

As hard as it is to imagine such a thing, Dusty Rhodes and Dirty Dick Murdoch got together again because they were "becoming too nice to opponents while we were apart!"

OUTLAW: "A FIERCE or uncontrollable animal." That's how the dictionary defines the word.

Outlaws: "Two vicious animals who maim their opponents."

No, this definition isn't from the same source. It's the one most fans use when they describe the wrestling Outlaws—"Dirty" Dick Murdoch and "Desperado" Dusty Rhodes.

Up until early 1971, Rhodes and Murdoch were a top-rated team. Then, without warning, they went their separate ways. Now, two years later, they're back together and more violent than ever!

"We split up because we were afraid of each other," Murdoch revealed. "Dusty and I were unpredictable. Neither of us wanted to get

stuck with a life suspension because of the other guy. Know what I mean?"

We didn't. So Rhodes tried to clear things up.

"Look," he said with a mouth full of chewing tobacco, "you know what happens when someone murders another guy and you're an accomplice—you get the rap too. That's what I





was afraid of. Dick wanted to murder guys in the ring and I refused to take the rap with him. The same thing on his side. If I wanted to murder someone, he wouldn't want the rap. So we split. But things are different now. We missed each other. We're both willin' to take the rap now if we have to."

What made things change?

"Well," Dusty continued, "it's like this. I been teaming with Larry Hennig. He's a nice guy and a helluva partner, but he doesn't have the murderous attitude I need to feel from my partner in order for me to put an opponent out of commission. Dick has it and I didn't realize how much I missed him until I started tagging with someone else."

Murdoch and Rhodes get together for an arm wrestling contest. It was a draw. They split up because each was afraid of what the other might do to an opponent in the ring and they feared they'd both be held responsible for it.



"I rassled stag after me and Dusty split," Murdoch continued, "but my will to completely destroy my opponent was getting to an all time low. I was getting soft. I even started taking pity on some of the slobs I rassled. So my shrink told me to go back to Dusty. He understands me. Now I feel like I could kill someone again."

Individually, Murdoch did fairly well. He wrestled in Florida for a lengthy period until he lost a "loser leave town" match. But that didn't stop him from getting even with his opponent.

"Ha, dat's right," Murdoch chuckled as he made the whole thing out to be a big joke. "I came back a week later disguised with a mask and beat the hell out of the guy who used illegal tactics in that loser leave town bout. Then I unmasked myself and let the fans know that "Super" Dick was back in town. Man, you should have heard the cheers for me!"

He stayed in Florida for a while and then left "because of lack of competition. "How the hell can you keep rasslin' guys like Brisco. I got tired of beating him up so often."

Buck Robley, who was also in Florida at the same time as Murdoch, made a deal with him.

"Look," he said. "You're wrestling as a single now and that means you're after a single title, right?"

Murdoch nodded yes.

"I just came from Amarillo, Texas, where the champ, Dory Jr. hangs out. I want to go back because there's

(Continued on Page 50)

**Wrestling
Reporter's
Diary:**

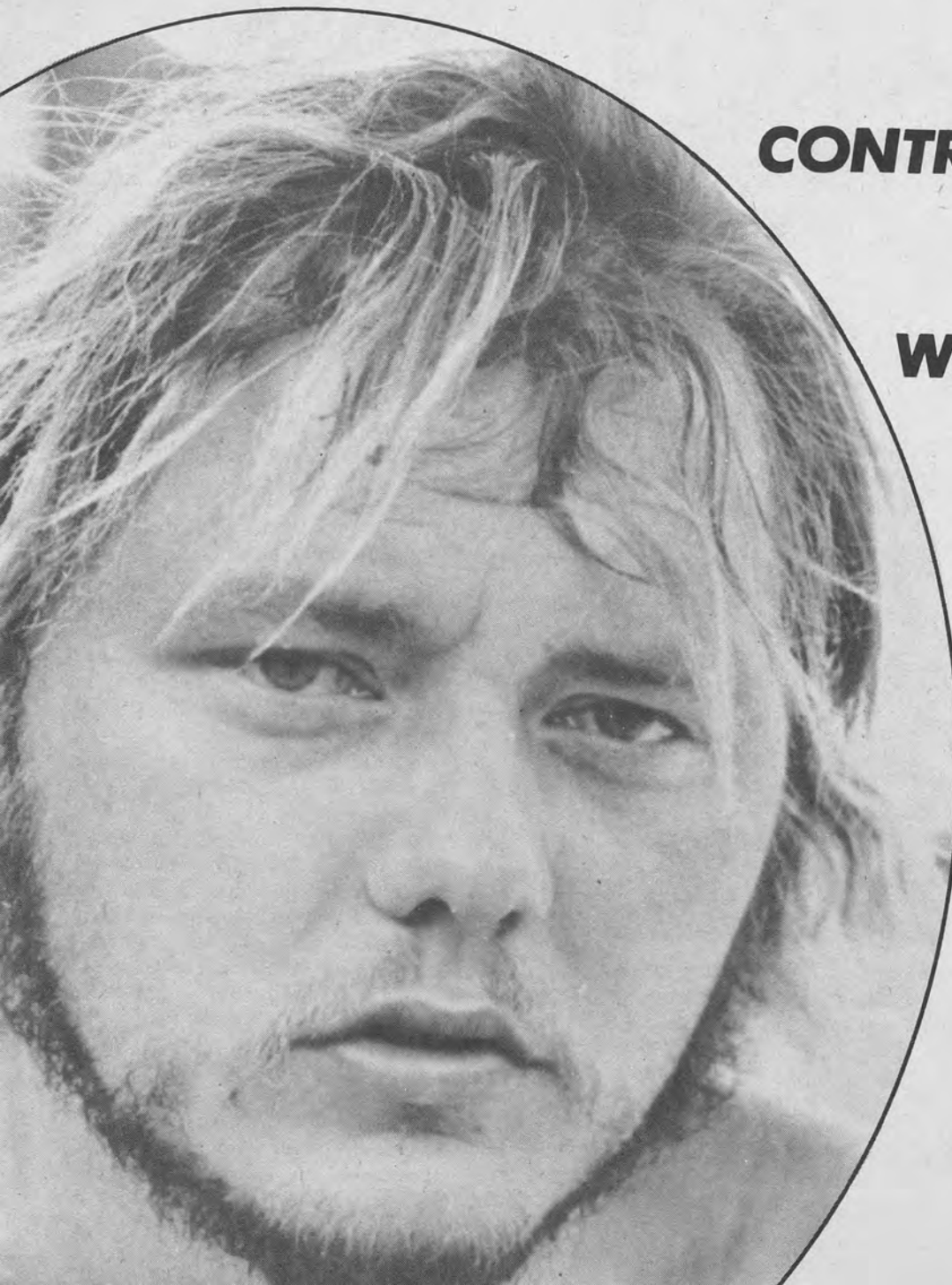
THE STORY OF CHRIS COLT—

**THE MOST
CONTROVERSIAL
MAN IN
WRESTLING!**



**Exclusive
Photos And Story
By Roger Baker**

Banned in many parts of the United States and Canada, Chris Colt, formerly one of the Hell's Angels, is raising hell in the midwestern United States. The most controversial man in wrestling, Colt is adored by those who know him personally, hated by those who've seen his vicious action during his matches.



For five days reporter Roger Baker became Chris Colt's shadow. He traveled with him, lived with him and ate his meals with him. He got him to talk as he never did before. What came out of it is a story unlike any you've read anywhere else!

THE BIG BOEING 707 touched down right on schedule at 11:45 a.m. I was landing in Omaha, Nebraska from Chicago's O'Hare International. As we taxied down the runway I wondered exactly what this guy Chris Colt would be like.

I'd seen him wrestle in Toronto and had spoken to him briefly in the Maple Leaf Gardens dressing room. When I told him I wanted to do a feature article on him he said it'd be great.

A few months later, after Chris didn't return to Toronto, I received a note from him. "I've been in Omaha for about eight weeks now," it said, "and I'm really tearing 'em up. Fly on down and be our guest. You'll get a good story."

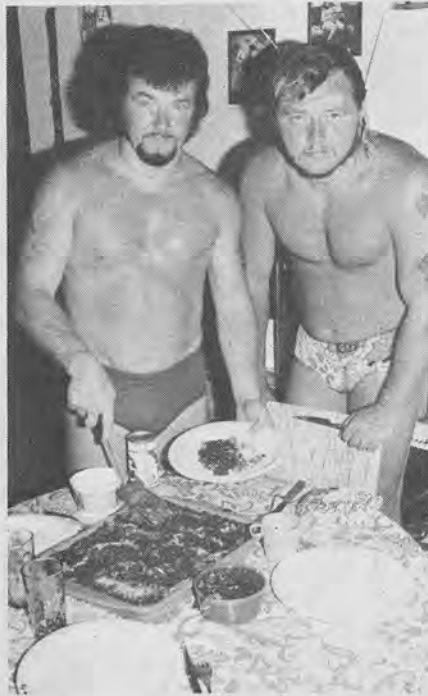
The "our" turned out to be Chris' manager, Ronald of Hollywood.

They met me at the airport and we drove 20 miles to where they were staying. I was famished and they hadn't eaten breakfast, so we tied into a good lunch of fried chicken and cold beer. Ronald, it turns out, is quite an accomplished cook, and subsequent feasts of lasagne and barbecued Nebraska T-bone steaks were eagerly devoured.

The boys were appearing in Rosenblatt Stadium that night against Cowboy Bob Ellis and we had all afternoon to relax around the pool and beat the 95-degree heat. But it wasn't too relaxing for Chris.

When you have a reputation like he does, anonymity becomes impossible. So all afternoon, young people surrounded him at the pool, some bold enough to push him in. In one instance it almost resulted in tragedy.

A youngster had shoved Chris into the water and he had to veer his body in mid-air to avoid hitting a little girl clinging to the edge of the pool. In trying to avoid her, Chris missed cracking his head open on the side of the pool by a matter of inches. He just grazed her when he landed, but it was enough to give her a gash over her eye.



Chris and Ronald reminisce (above) as they don their Hell's Angels outfits. An injury knocked Ronald out of action. Left: Ron shows off his cooking talent. Below: Chris relaxes with his favorite beverage.



Chris stopped the bleeding and applied a butterfly bandage. Then the older brother of the boy who'd pushed Chris came over with his younger brother alongside. The youngster apologized to Chris. He'd seen what happened to the girl (his sister) and was terrified. Chris put his arms around the shoulders of both boys and told them it was okay. It was a touching moment. He's ab-

olutely wonderful with children.

It is now 7:30 p.m. and we're in the dressing room behind the dug-out of the outdoor stadium. The crowd is sparse. The temperature is still high as is the humidity. The dressing room isn't air conditioned and everyone is sweaty and miserable.

Buddy Wolfe is already in an argu-

Continued
27

ment with referee Ernie Dusek. Japanese ace Higo Hamaguchi, who speaks no English, is doing deep knee bends. Harley Race is talking with Ronald of Hollywood. Chris, nervous, is pacing back and forth across the room.

Tonight's match is a grudge battle. Colt has agreed to have Ronald attached to the corner ringpost so he can't interfere. Two weeks earlier, Ellis and Colt got involved in a bloodbath and both needed stitches. Ronald had the indignity of having dirt flung in his face courtesy of Ellis. Colt had been disqualified. Eight other wrestlers had to charge into the ring to separate Ellis and Colt. And in the short time he's been here, Chris has become the most disqualified wrestler ever to appear for promoter Joe Dusek.

The match is even wilder this time. Colt gets his hands on an adjustable wrench and continually slams Ellis with it, opening monstrous wounds on his head. The cowboy looks as if he's being butchered alive! Colt is in a frenzy and begins slashing Ellis with a chain!

The match continues along these lines and winds up when Colt goes berserk and attacks the referee. Ellis has to be assisted back to the dressing room. Colt stands outside Ellis' dressing room door yelling at him to come out and fight like a man. It takes 10 minutes to calm Chris down.

"I warned you there'd be buckets of blood spilled tonight," Colt tells Joe Dusek. "Get out of here and go console your cowboy friend!"

Shaking his head, Dusek leaves. "I've never seen anyone like him before," the promoter says. "He's an absolute savage."

After treating his wounds, Chris, Ronald and myself leave the Stadium. In the parking lot we're the target of rocks, obscenities and hysterical Ellis fans. Colt wants to take on the whole crowd. Ronald persuades him not to. We get in the car and leave.

It has been a rough night and the cold beer we have when we return to the apartment is good. We have no trouble falling asleep and nobody wakes up before noon the next day.

Ron prepares another great meal but Chris doesn't seem hungry. He has an awful headache and his forehead is a mess. But that isn't why



Cowboy Bob Ellis drags Chris Colt by the hair (above) as their war spills out of the ring and onto the stadium grass. Colt (right) is a bloody, battered man as he sinks to his knees after Ellis gave him a rough time. Chris, however, battled back and even tried to get to Ellis in the dressing room.



he's lost his appetite. Chris had placed a call to Phoenix, Arizona to speak to a promoter there. He inquired as to the health of another wrestler with whom he'd been very close friends.

"Didn't you know?" the promoter asked Chris.

"Know what?" Colt replied.

"He was knifed in a bar in Phoenix and died on the operating table."

Chris hung up the phone and I could see goose bumps come up on his arms. He was stunned. The rest of the day we sat around the place and did nothing. It was like a morgue.

That night, to get Chris' mind off what he'd heard, Ronald suggests we hit downtown Omaha and go to a few clubs. We go to a place called

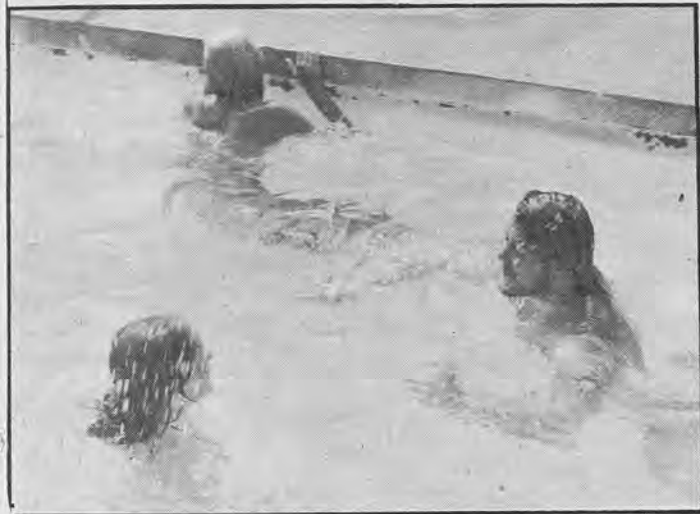
"The Heat" and everybody's moving to the music. The place is full of guys and dolls, but as soon as Chris walks in about a half dozen chicks stop what they're doing to eye him. He doesn't seem to care.

Then he spots a cute little gal doing her thing with a tambourine. He goes over to her table and a minute later they are rocking together out on the floor. When I say a little gal I mean it. She's a midget. He invites her back to our table along with some other folks we met and we wind up partying all night.

It's now 3 a.m. and the party has just broken up. Chris, Ron and myself are driving home and I figure this might be a good time to get



Reporter Roger Baker is flanked by Chris and Ronald (above) as he samples Ron's fried chicken. Left: Chris comes up for air after getting thrown in the pool. Below: Popular Chris explains the pool accident to a couple of his prettier neighbors.



the story of the most controversial wrestler in wrestling. I did.

Chris was born in Idaho and moved to Eugene, Oregon at the age of five. He has an older sister with whom he's quite close.

"In school I had long hair and unconventional ideas long before anybody ever heard of hippies," Chris

recalled. "I was always being hassled by teachers and they were always putting me down. I knew when I was eight years old that I wanted to be a wrestler and I used to save my dimes and nickels just to buy every wrestling magazine I could. I even read them during classes.

"I used to hitch-hike to Portland to see the matches when my family

moved there a few years later. I was in my teens and the urge to become a wrestler was greater than ever. I was so hung up I figured if I couldn't make it as a wrestler I'd settle for being a referee. Can you imagine that? Me. Chris Colt. A referee?

"I got my first match when I was 17. It was in Illinois. I got banged up by an old pro who didn't like the idea of being put in there against a 17-year-old punk. He took it out on me. There were more beatings after that and I was convinced I was a social outcast. I had dropped out of high school and everybody looked down on me because I wanted to be a wrestler.

"I was too light. I weighed 165 pounds. I had no money to join a health club or buy weights to build myself up. The first winter I wrestled I got so sick I caught pneumonia and nearly died. My weight went down even further.

"Finally, when I was 18, I got a break. Tony Santos booked me in Boston where I met Ronald, who was wrestling as 'The Golden Boy.' He was also light—about 175 pounds—and together we chipped in enough money to buy weights and build ourselves up.

"When I was 19 we went to California and met members of the Hell's Angels, the infamous motorcycle club. We decided to take their name since our life style agreed with theirs. They gave us their approval, although we did not belong to the club or associate with them.

We donned leather boots, Levis and studded belts. We raised hell for six beautiful years. We wrestled the top teams in California, Chicago, Detroit, Oregon, Arizona and elsewhere. Our battles with Bruiser and Crusher are legend. We beat the Kangaroos in Detroit. We also whipped the famous father and son team, Wild Bull Curry and Fred.

"The Currys wanted our tag team championship more than anything, but they couldn't beat us in the ring. One night a couple of years ago, that S.O.B. Bull sucker-punched me in a hallway between dressing rooms in Cincinnati. I was out for 20 minutes and the punch busted a front tooth. When I came to I could have gone crazy from the pain since the nerve was exposed. But where the hell can you find a dentist at 11 o'clock on a Saturday night? I had to

Continued

go to a hospital to have a porcelain cap put on. It cost me \$125."

One of the toughest battles the Hell's Angels ever faced was in Phoenix, Arizona when they took on Bob Ellis and Luis Martinez. Here is Colt's exact account of that match:

"This was one of those grudge matches that went on for seven and eight weeks straight. Martinez and Ellis figured the only way to beat us was to dress like us in boots, Levis and belt buckles, so for obvious reasons, to satisfy the fans, the promotor arranged the match. We didn't like the idea of anybody copying us but we okayed the match and man, let me tell you in that first fall they used those boots and belt buckles and laid me wide open so that when I was standing up my blood was dripping down to the canvas. My boots weren't black, they were red from the blood dripping out of my head. That was the first fall and they beat me.

"In the second fall my partner jumped right out of the ring and grabbed a chair and busted Ellis over the head with it. He split his head open completely. We beat him for the second fall.

"This match, had a no disqualification clause. The referee just stood in a neutral corner and didn't care what happened to either team. He was only there to count pin falls. This type of match is unheard of and it is a more brutal match than anything ever seen in a so-called Texas Death Match and that's got to be pretty damn wild, man.

"With the score evened up and me still bleeding, I felt I was getting weak, with temperatures so high and the humidity so low. The wrestling fans were sitting there fanning themselves and I felt tension as I stood up for the third fall because our championship belts were on the line.

"As the third fall came in, at least four to six rows of ringsiders got up and picked up their chairs and started throwing them in the ring at us because of the way we had beat Bob Ellis with chairs ourselves. We don't deny that we used chairs but it was a 'no disqualification' match. If they can't take it then let them get out of the business. The point is they wanted it, they demanded it and they got it.

"We began running Louis Martinez's head into a ring post and he was

Chris is full of confidence as he poses outside of the dressing room (right) before his match against Cowboy Bob Ellis. Below: Chrus uses a hacksaw to slice Ellis' head wide open. Such tactics make Chris one of the most dangerous men in wrestling.



bleeding so bad he couldn't see where he was. He even tried to tag my partner because he didn't know him from Bob Ellis, that's how bad his eyes were burning and stained from the blood that was running in to them.

"We grabbed them, man, and we busted their heads together till they didn't know where they were. When they got hold of my partner they put the boots and the belt buckles to him and got him bleeding all over. That left four of us in the ring all bleeding at the same time.

"The next thing I knew, two fans jumped into the ring and started swinging at us and the odds were four against two. There had been consecutive rioting since the second fall.

"The police security guards jumped in and tried to prevent what happened in the ring, but couldn't. Everybody was getting clobbered. The referee went down and wasn't able to render a decision. We ended up being down and out, too.

On the way back we were jumped, hit in the face by womens' purses, and almost stabbed. They grabbed a guy who pulled a switchblade out of his pocket just as he went at us

to cut us up.

"We got back to the dressing room and couldn't stop bleeding. The promotor came back and said we'd better go to the hospital. So they called a cab for us and we went to the hospital and got sewn up.

"I don't know how many stitches they put in us. The promotor came in and had the decency to pay the bill. We went back to the arena with headaches and all patched up, to pick up our checks and car. At that time we had a Cadillac, which was parked out back.

"When we got to it we found the front windshield all caved in. It had been smashed by a rock or something. There was glass all over the front seat and dash. I turned on the ignition to try and start the car and it was dead. We were getting all cut up, our back and legs from the glass fragments. I took the key out of the ignition and told Ronnie, 'let's go home. I can't take any more of this.'"

Eighteen months ago Ronnie got hurt. He was hurt so bad he had to quit wrestling. And suddenly, the names of the California Hell's Angels were no longer seen in newspaper ads across the country.

(Continued on page 55)



This posed picture of Pedro Morales was taken by amateur photographer Owen Hamber. It's the kind we want.

WE OFTEN GET requests for information about how to become a photographer for **INSIDE WRESTLING** and **THE WRESTLER**. Sometimes pictures will be sent along with the requests.

Since we have the best professional photography staff of any wrestling magazine, it isn't often amateurs get a chance to get their pictures published. But it happens. In 1972 three amateur photographers submitted work good enough to be used in our magazines. Two of these people are now submitting photos on a fairly regular freelance basis—and getting paid for their pictures.

That got us to wondering how many other good photographers are out there, so we decided to have a contest open to anyone with a camera, amateur and professional alike!

Here's how it works:

*Competitors are invited to submit pictures for any one of three categories—posed pictures, action pictures, and unique, unusual or humorous pictures.

*Prints submitted should be at least size 4x5 inches and not larger than size 8x10 inches. Black and white pictures are preferred rather than color prints, although color prints will be considered. Do not send negatives. You may submit as many pictures as you want.

Ever dream of seeing your pictures appear in a magazine? Here's your big chance. And the best thing of all is anyone with a camera is eligible!

Enter the INSIDE WRESTLING/ THE WRESTLER

PICTURE CONTEST



Freelance photographer Gary Kamen-sack, only 16 years old, submitted this great photo of Bobby Heenan and now submits photos to us on a regular basis, earning him extra money. Think you can do as well? Here's your big chance!

*All entries must be received not later than April 1.

*The winning pictures, together with the names of the photographers, will be published in a future issue of either **THE WRESTLER** or **INSIDE WRESTLING**.

Remember: Not only do you get an opportunity to win a free subscription to the two best wrestling magazines in the world and to realize the thrill of seeing your work published in an internationally circulated magazine, you could also be taking the first step to an exciting and highly profitable career. If your work meets our quality standards, you might be asked to submit additional pictures on a freelance basis and, of course, be paid professional rates.

So get your cameras ready and let's go! You might be a much better photographer than you think! ☐

*All pictures become the property of G.C. London Publishing Corp., and *none* will be returned to the sender.

*The best pictures in each category will receive one year subscriptions to both **THE WRESTLER** and **INSIDE WRESTLING**.

*Mail your pictures, together with your full name and address to: G.C. LONDON PUBLISHING CORP., BOX 58, ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK 11571 ATTENTION: PHOTO EDITOR.

Hank James thought he was so good he didn't even have to change out of his street clothes to wrestle his opponents. And he didn't. Then he went up against Dory Funk Sr. and found out...

CLOTHES DON'T MAKE THE MAN

Exclusive Photos By Bill Beach

THE MAN IS COOL. "Not just cool, baby," he'll tell you. "The coolest. Ain't no cat even comes close!"

The cool man doing the talking is one of wrestling's newest stars, Hank James, a man so good (so he says) he doesn't even have to take off his street clothes to wrestle.

"That's right, my man," James, a talkative sort, continued. "Only reason these cats wrestle in special duds is cause they don't want to get their good threads all sweaty. Well hell, ain't nobody I've ever seen yet can make ol' Hank James work up a sweat. Beating these cats is easy as eatin' breakfast."

James does have the most unique wrestling costume in the sport. It's really a non-costume. When he strolls down the aisle towards the ring he wears a big hat, silk shirt, \$75 flare pants, \$150 boots and smokes a big cigar.

Before he climbs into the ring he waves both arms out to the crowd "so I can soak in the applause," he says. But the only applause he hears must be in his imagination. Ol' Hank, as he calls himself, isn't exactly the most popular man in Texas since Jim Bowie.

When he finishes waving to the crowd, he slowly struts up the stairs

Hank James is just the epitome of cool as he struts around the ring in his white street clothes smoking a big cigar. And those are the duds he wrestles in because he "ain't met up with anyone good enough to make me work up a decent sweat!" Then he met Dory Funk Sr.!

and into the ring. Then he walks around the ring, eyes closed, smoking his cigar, "gettin' the feeling," as he says.

Next, a valet comes into the ring and as Hank leans back on the ropes the valet shines his shoes. This is done, according to James, for two reasons.

"First," he says, "I gotta be lookin' sharp. My shoes collect dust from the peasants as I go from the dressing room to the ring.

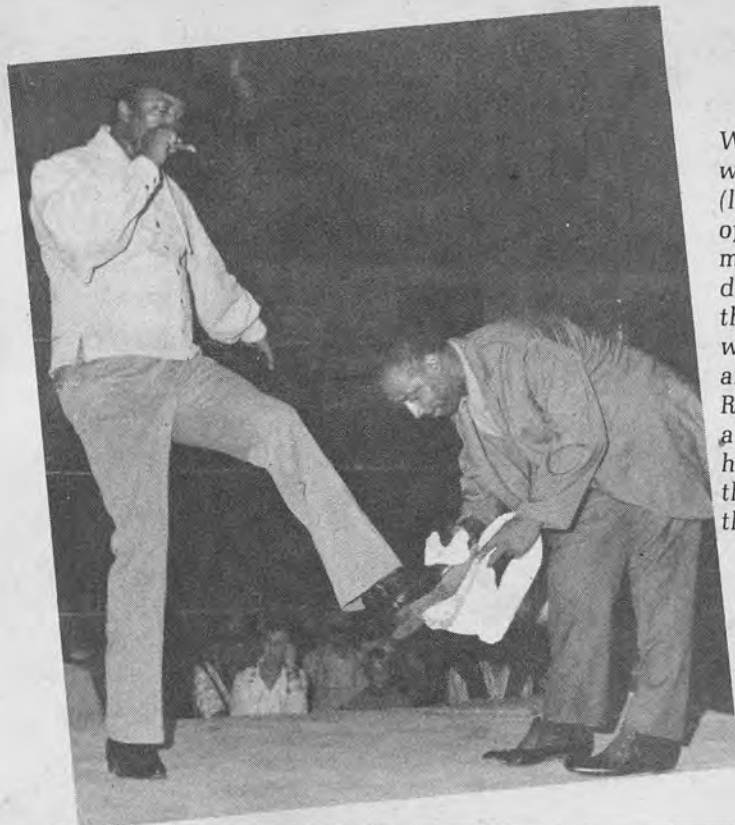
"Second, when I stomp some cat

and open him up, I don't want to be infecting him, man."

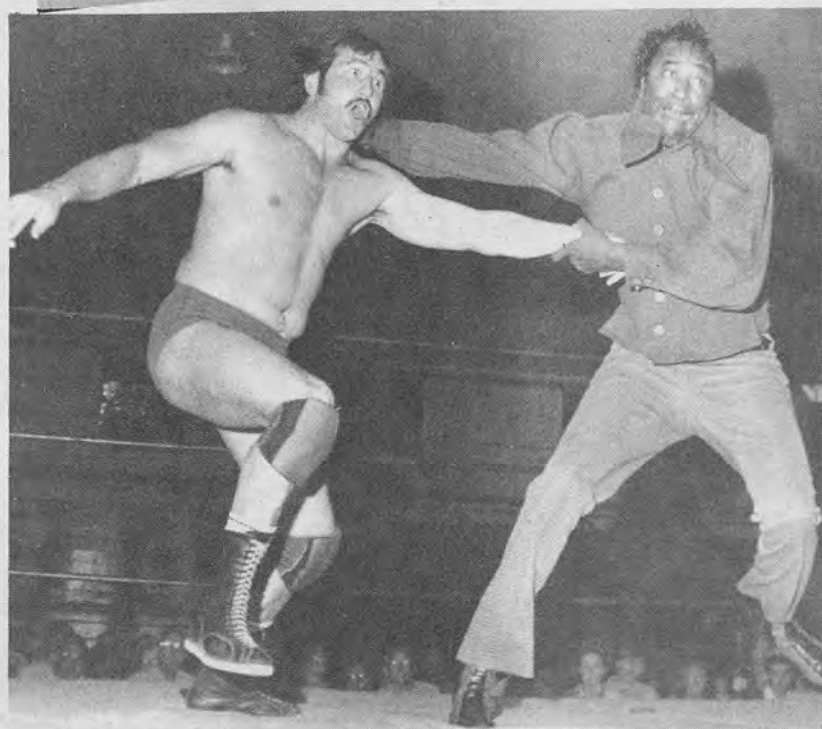
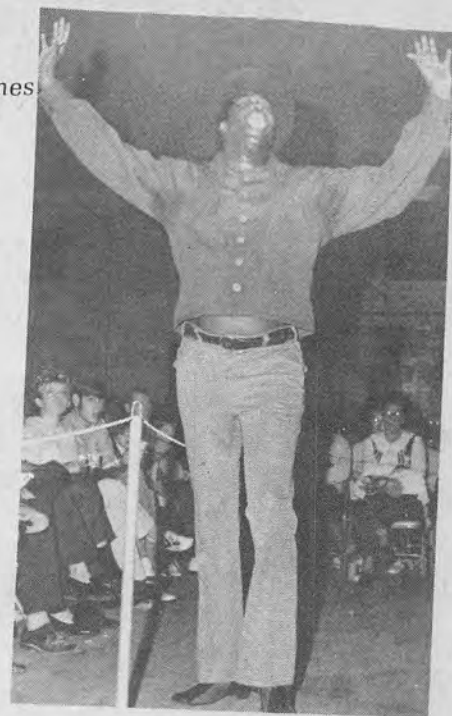
James is a huge man, standing about 6-5 and weighing 240 pounds. But, as he is quick to point out, there's not an ounce of fat on him. And when he gets his mitts on an opponent—watch out!

His first 12 matches ended with him pinning his opponents. The longest it had taken to pin any one man was 39 seconds! And that, according to Hank, was because "the cat kept runnin' away from me. Hell,





Who else but Hank James would get a shoeshine (left) in the middle of the ring before a match? He claims he doesn't like walking through the dirt where the fans are located. Right: Hank is all smiles as he listens to the cheers he thinks he hears.



James whips Bill Cody (left) into the ringpost and then pins him (above) in fewer than 30 seconds. Until the night Dory Sr. tore his clothes off, James had won every match in under a minute!

it took me a full 20 seconds to catch that man."

One man not particularly impressed with Hand James, however, is Dory Funk Sr. James had been quoted as saying some rather uncomplimentary things about the elder Funk and Dory was after his tail.

"Every time I'd polish some cat off in a few seconds," Hank related, "the fans would say 'wait'll the Funks get you.' That's all I kept hearin'—the Funks, the Funks. Hell, I didn't even know what a Funk was! Sounds

like some kind of rat. You know. Watch out man or you gonna get bitten by a Funk."

James then went down to the promoter's office to find out, believe it or not, what a Funk was. According to the promoter, he really didn't know.

"This guy just comes in off the street one day and says he wants to wrestle," the promoter recalled. "I told him it wasn't that easy.

"Yes it is," he tells me. I asked if he had any experience.

"Yeah," he tells me. "In St. Louis." I asked him what arena.

"Arena?" he says, "man I ain't never been in no arena. I'm talkin' about alleys, man!"

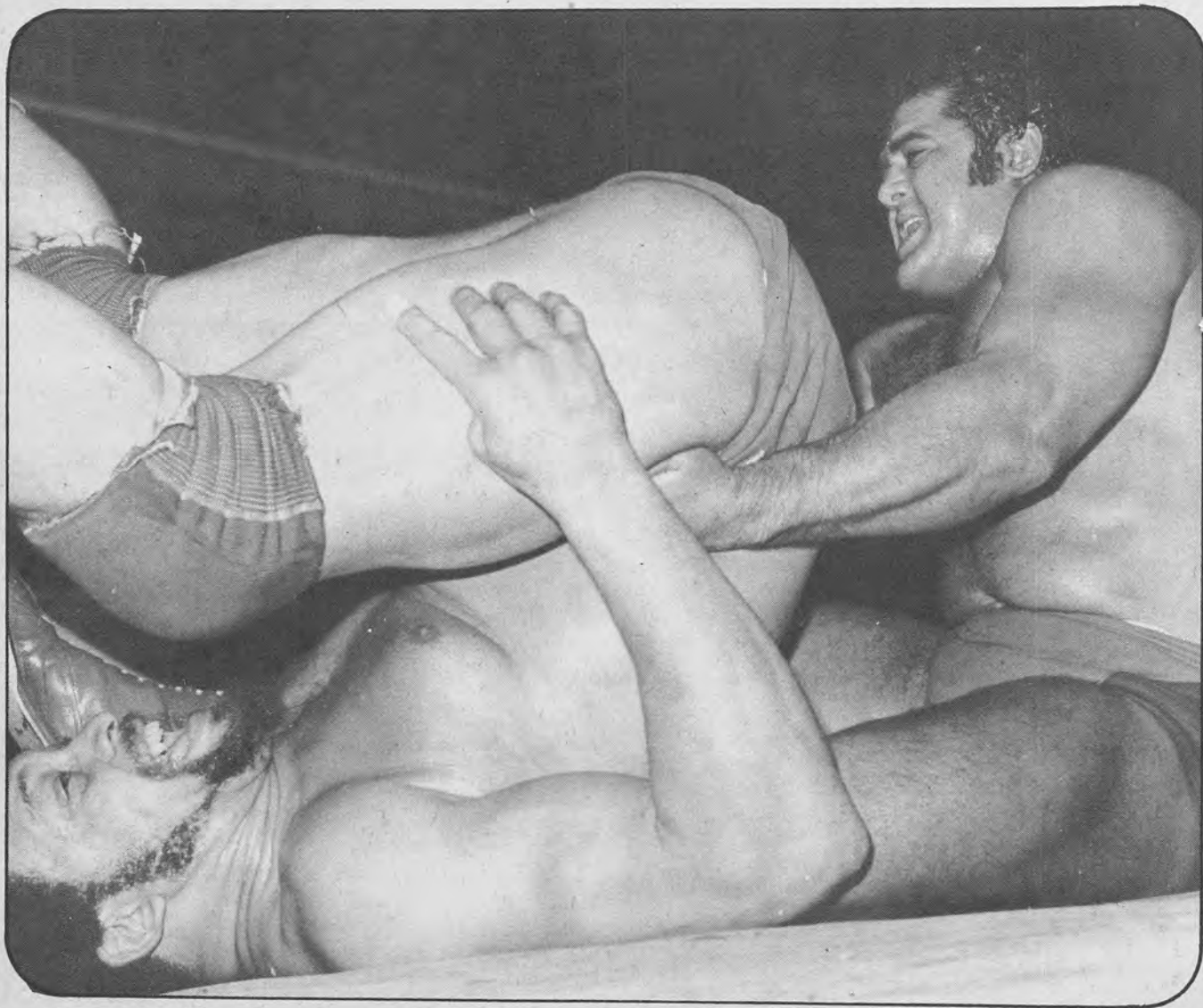
"I get these tough guys all the time, but I didn't like this one at all. I figure I'll teach him a lesson. I got him licensed and stuck him in a preliminary match figuring he'll get buried.

"My first surprise is when he shows up for the match in street clothes.

(Continued on page 48)

HOW PEDRO BEAT

World Wide Wrestling Federation heavyweight champion Pedro Morales traveled 3,000 miles in search of Ernie Ladd's Americas' championship. He whipped Ernie, didn't come back with the Americas' belt, and almost lost his own in the process!



Like a turtle flipped over on its shell, Ernie Ladd's legs are flipped over his chest and his shoulders are pinned to the canvas. Ernie tried but couldn't squirm out of it. He was beaten. The referee counted to three and Morales and most of the spectators were convinced he was the new Americas' champion.

THE ANGRY YOUNG man stormed back to the dressing room. He picked up a gym bag from a bench and hurled it across the room. Then, as hard as he could, he slammed his powerful fist into a locker putting a huge dent in it!

Had he just lost? Had he been disqualified? Had he gotten a fast count?

No. None of these. For the young man storming about the locker room had been the winner. It was a clean-cut, no-doubt-about-it victory.

So why the violent reaction?

The man best able to explain it—World Wide Wrestling Federation heavyweight champion Pedro Morales—was in no mood for explana-

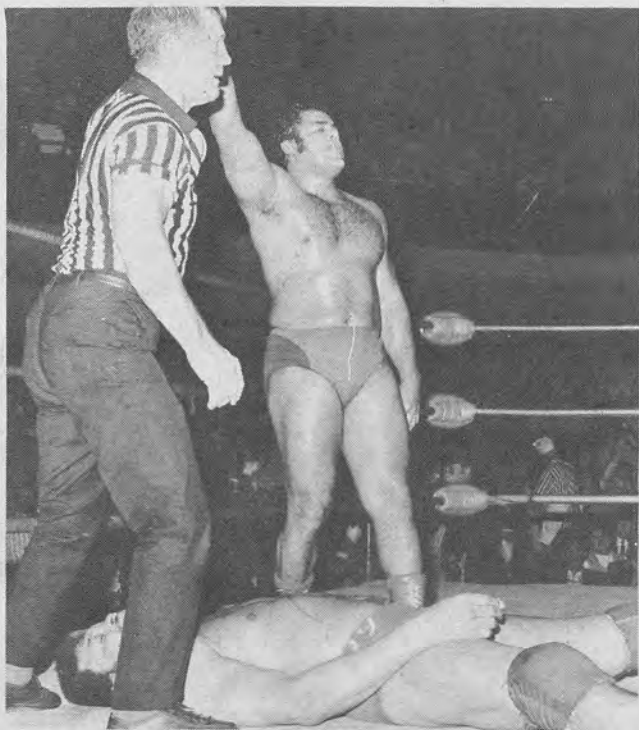
tions. He's the one who was presently occupied with taking the locker room apart.

"I'm never coming back here!" he roared to no one in particular. "Never!!! They couldn't pay me enough to come back to California!"

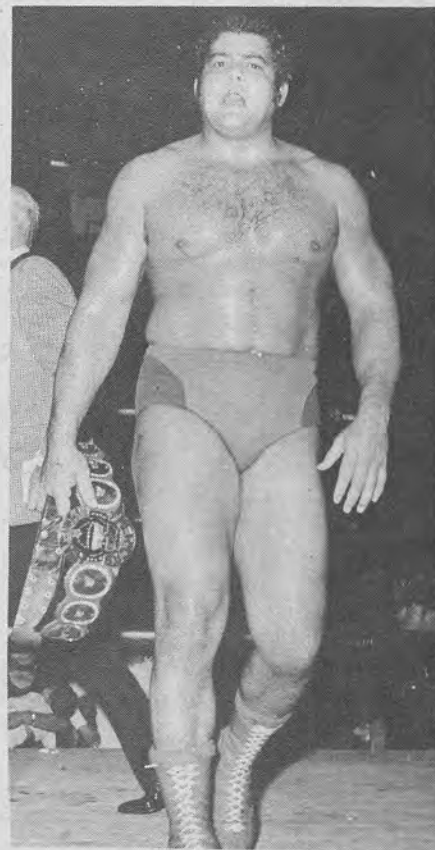
Sounding more like noted California-hater Terry Funk, Pedro

ERNIE LADD—AND ALMOST LOST HIS TITLE DOING IT!

Exclusive Photos By Theo Ehret



Ernie Ladd is full of confidence as he struts down the aisle (above) at the start of the match. But when it's over (left), Ernie's stretched out—flat on his back—and doesn't even see Pedro's arm being raised in triumph. Right: Pedro, Americas' belt in hand, leaves the ring for the dressing room. But the belt was taken from him before he got there.



finally calmed down enough to explain what seemed like a weird decision to the packed audience at the Olympic as well as to Pedro himself.

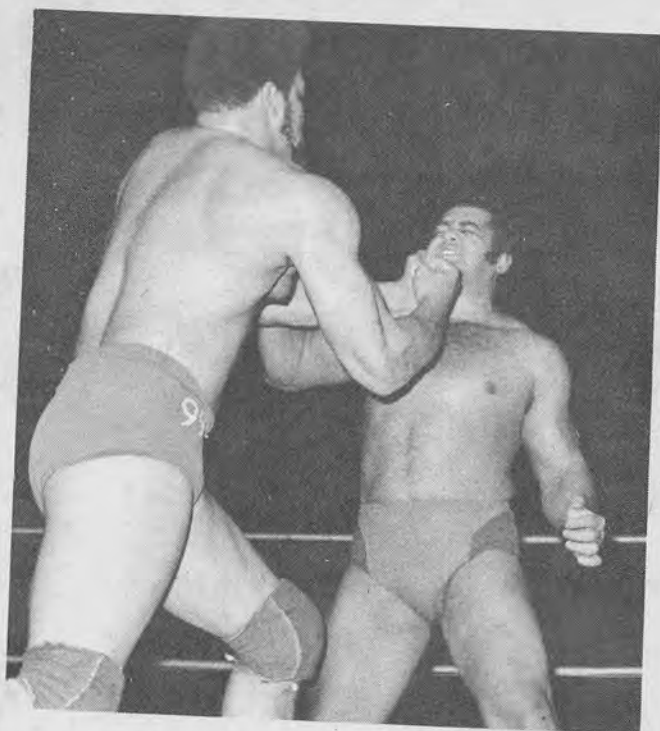
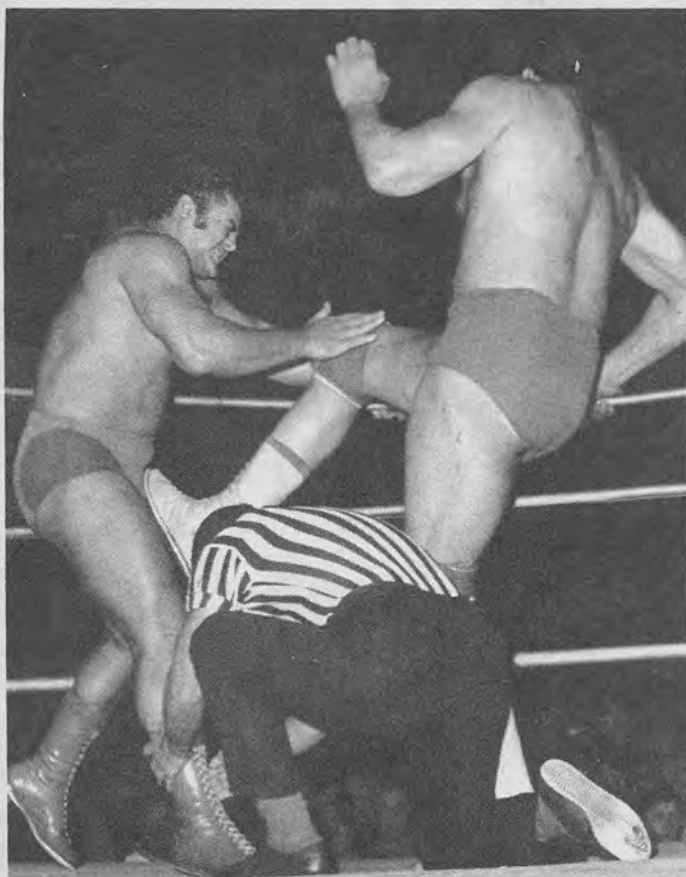
"Doubletalk," Morales said. "All doubletalk. They said they couldn't give me the belt because it was supposed to be a two-out-of-three-fall match. Then they told me they

couldn't give it to me because I already held the W.W.W.F. belt. All doubletalk. They had no intention of giving me that belt from the very start!"

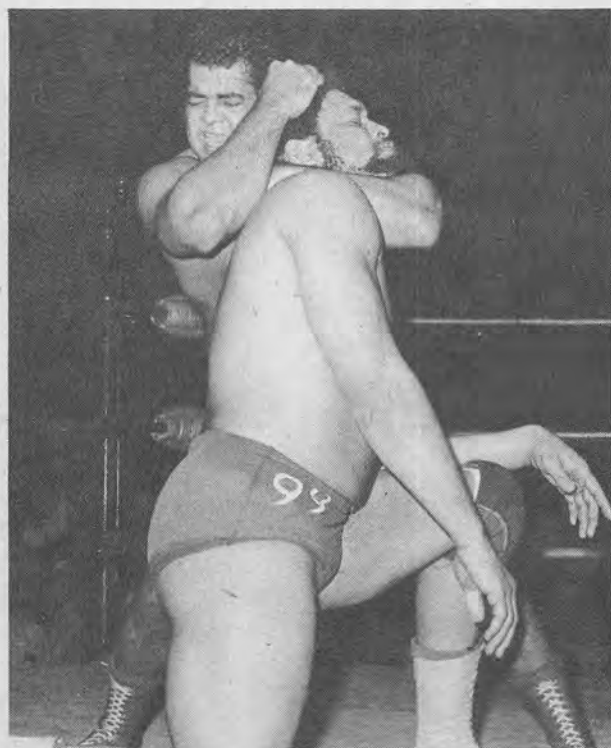
To fully understand Pedro's anger, it is necessary to back-track a little bit. Morales, who first gained stardom in southern California, has been

wooed by promoter Mike Lebell to return there for a long time. But until recently, Morales was not allowed to defend his belt outside W.W.W.F. territory. When an informal exchange program was worked out among the feuding federations, Pedro decided to accept Lebell's invitation.

Continued



Ernie tries to grab Pedro in the corner (above), but Morales spins away. Left: As the referee is frisking Pedro for hidden objects, Ernie unloads a vicious kick to Pedro's groin. The referee, busy with his inspection, never saw the kick.



Big Ernie's down on one knee as Morales increases the pressure on a chinlock. Ladd hammered Morales throughout the early part of the contest, but the champion got stronger as the match progressed. When the match turned out to be more than one hour long, Pedro's conditioning proved to be the determining factor.

There was an added inducement, of course. His opponent was to be one of Morales' most hated rivals, Ernie Ladd, whom Pedro had already defeated back east. But since that defeat, Ladd had bounced back to annex the America's Championship, and Pedro figured if he could beat Ladd once he could do it again—except now he could add another important title while doing it.

So Pedro put his W.W.W.F. championship belt on the line against Ladd's Americas' belt.

Pedro's appearance in California was one of the biggest events in west coast wrestling since Bruno Sammartino ended a five-year exile to appear in the annual 22-man Battle Royal. And Pedro did everything he could to make it a success, including flying out of New York ahead of schedule so he could make a few TV appearances.

The many fans who remembered the champion, and even those who didn't, gave him a rousing reception as he entered the ring for the best two-out-of-three-fall title contest. Ernie Ladd is not exactly an overwhelming crowd favorite in southern California.

Pedro handed his belt over to a ringside official and waited for Ladd to make his grand entrance. He did,

strutting into the ring wearing a satin jacket and sporting the Americas' belt around his waist.

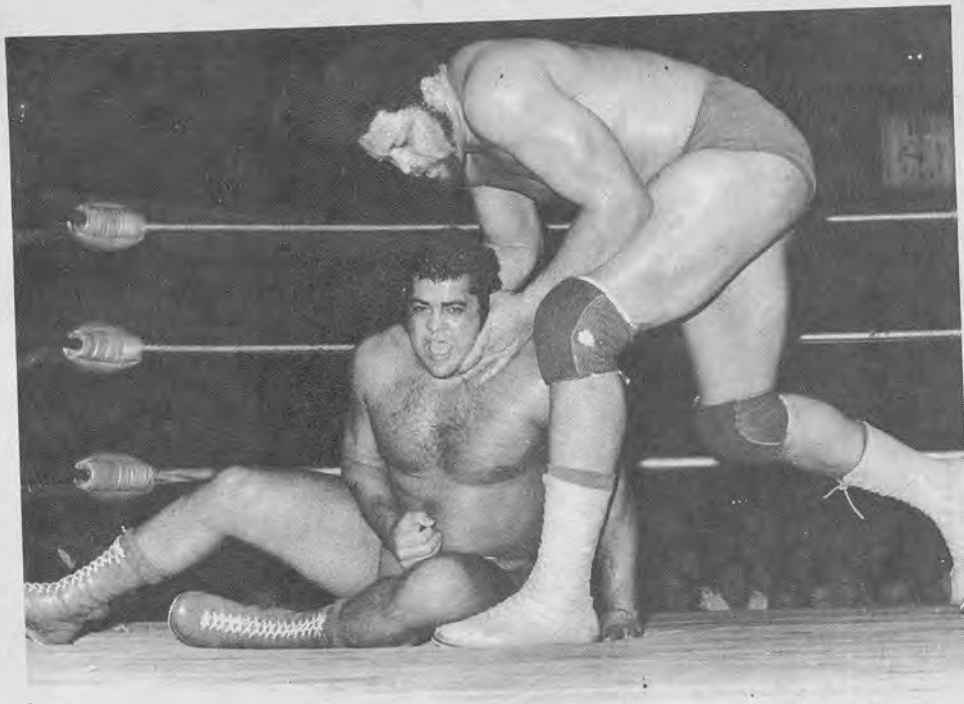
"Did that clown give you his belt, man?" Ernie asked an official.

"Yes he did," the official replied.

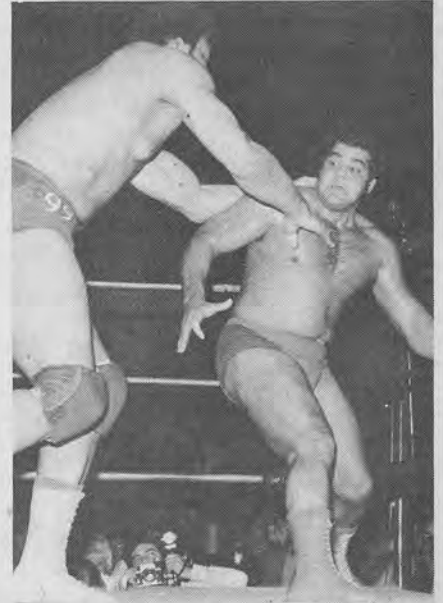
"Good," Ladd added, removing his own belt and handing it to the man. "I'm gonna be wearin' both of

these when I leave the ring!"

Both wrestlers stepped to the center of the ring, but Ladd didn't wait for the bell to ring before attacking. As the referee was frisking Morales for foreign objects—Ladd lashed out with a vicious kick to the groin which sent Pedro crumpling to the mat in pain.



Ladd makes no bones about it—his choke hold (left) is right out in the open. Below: As if that's not enough, when the referee forces Ernie to break the hold, he hauls off and lands a smashing right hand catching Pedro on the point of his chin. The impact sent the champion out of the ring.



taken his best shot while Morales was just beginning to unleash his attack.

And attack he did!

Grabbing Ernie's arm, Pedro whipped him into the ropes and met him with a 'stunning backdrop as the big man bounced off. Everytime Ernie tried to get up he was nearly sliced in half by a Morales dropkick. It was an airborne attack and Ernie didn't know where the next blow would come from.

Despite the punishment he was taking, Ladd is strong and tough. So when Pedro finally tried to pin him, he had little trouble throwing Morales off or kicking his way out.

Both wrestlers had expended an awful lot of energy in those first 10 minutes as each went for an early pin. They were beginning to tire a bit and it was obvious this would be one of those marathon matches with the tide turning first one way and then another.

And that's what happened. The action waged back and forth. Not since Pedro faced Bruno Sammartino or Ladd faced Abdullah the Butcher had either man been in such a bone-crushing war. And to the credit of both, neither one was willing to give an inch.

(Continued on page 60)



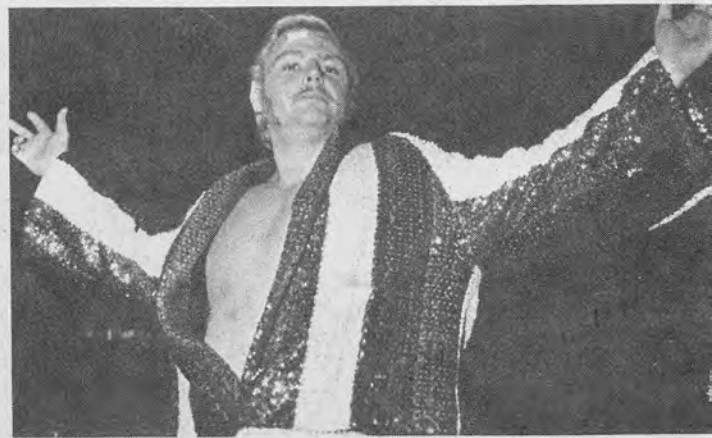
Ladd falls face-first to the canvas after being whipped into the corner turnbuckle. To his credit, Ernie absorbed a terrific amount of punishment before finally succumbing to the W.W.W.F. champion.

Ernie continued stomping on the Puerto Rican star as the referee tried to hold him off. He finally yanked the 6-9 former football player away from Pedro and pushed him back to his corner. The bell rang and the few seconds respite allowed Morales to partially recover from the sneak attack.

But it was all Ladd in the early going as he continually dropped Pedro with kicks to the stomach and groin. Twice he kicked Morales right out of the ring and twice Pedro just beat the count crawling back in.

As hard as he tried, Ernie couldn't put the finisher on Pedro. Before too long it seemed as if Ernie had

"THERE IS NO PLACE IN WRESTLING FOR MISFITS LIKE EDDIE GRAHAM"



Bobby Shane, back in action after Eddie Graham broke his leg, is taking out advertisements in programs so he can taunt Eddie.

By Bobby Shane

IT'S A VERY sad thing to see a once-great wrestler come to the end of the line...to watch him grow fat and old before your very eyes. Yes, it's sad, especially when the wrestler himself doesn't realize what's happening and tries to hang on through a 20-year-old reputation.

That's the situation Eddie Graham finds himself in today. I say Graham was once a great wrestler. I don't know for sure. I was too young to remember the days when he and his brother Jerry were the most feared tag team combination in the world. But people have said this was so. I believe it, although personally I feel it was Jerry who carried Eddie.

But if Eddie Graham ever had anything he's long since lost it. He's merely a shell. He's soft. Flabby. Slow. Tired. Old. He's from another

The war of words grows hotter between Bobby Shane and Eddie Graham every day. Insults are exchanged at every opportunity. So naturally we couldn't pass up a chance to give these two gentlemen a chance to bring their causes out in the open!

era. He's just not relevant anymore.

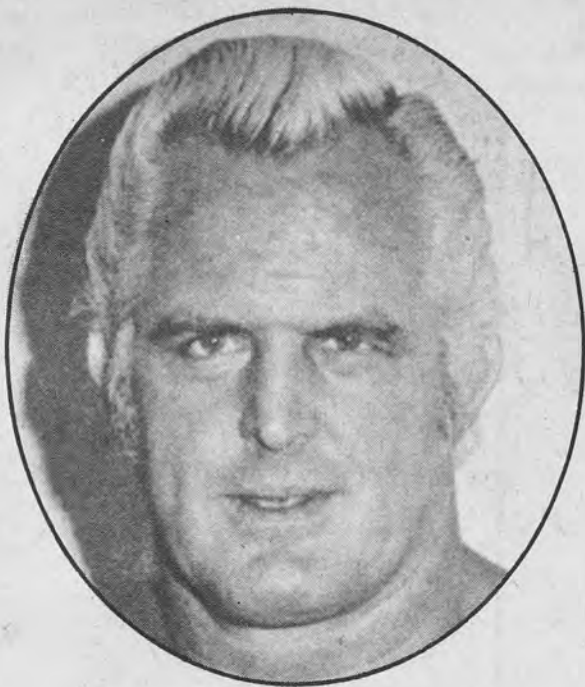
Yet does he retire gracefully? No. Although he has a son old enough to be a professional wrestler (not a very good one, unfortunately), ol' Edwin believes he can still cut it. He looks in the mirror and sees a reflection from 20 years go. His head got so big he figured he could handle me—the King of

wrestling.

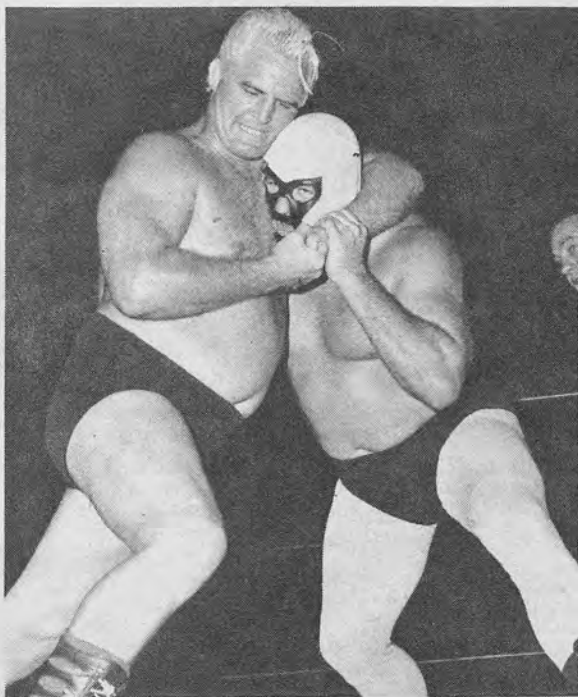
At first I took pity on this old timer. I went easy on him. I figured if I gave him a taste of what he was up against he'd come to his senses, realize he didn't have it any more, and hang it up for good.

Well, I gave him a wrestling lesson all right. But it didn't convince him.

(Continued on page 64)



"IF I'M SUCH A MISFIT HOW COME I BROKE YOUR LEG SO EASILY?"



Eddie Graham laughs at Shane's remarks and points to the calibre of opposition he's faced, such as Goliath (above).

By Eddie Graham

I WANT TO thank you for giving me the opportunity to answer the accusations of that nitwit on the opposite page.

Do you know that down in Florida he actually takes out ads in the wrestling program just to promote himself and insult me? Isn't that incredible?

I won't comment on his ridiculous name-calling because I think it tells more about the intelligence—or lack of intelligence—of the man more than anything I can pos-

sibly say. I believe the reputation I've earned and the honors I've received in this sport speak for themselves.

I just want Shane to know he's not fooling anybody with his ridiculous tirades. He's not fooling me, the fans or the promoters. He's only fooling himself. We *know* what he is.

But I would like to ask a few questions.

First, if my son is as poor a wrestler as you say he is, and in one of your ads you called him a "fat, muscle-bound kid," how come you're scared to get into the ring

against him by yourself? You've always had someone come to your rescue as soon as you get into trouble?

Second, if I'm such an old has-been as you claim, Shane, how come it was this decrepit old man who broke your leg and nearly put you out of wrestling for good? If this overage senile misfit, as you call me, can break your leg so easily, what's going to happen to you when you go up against a young, first-class wrestler?

You claim I have no business being in the sport if I have a son old enough to be a professional wrestler. Age isn't measured only in years. It's measured in physical conditioning as well. If I was in the kind of shape you're in, if I had your pot belly, I'd take your advice and retire gracefully. But I

(Continued on page 64)

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THUNDERBOLT PATTERSON
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AVENGER & JIM DILLON
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with
ROMMIE ARVIN vs. PONCHO BALDER
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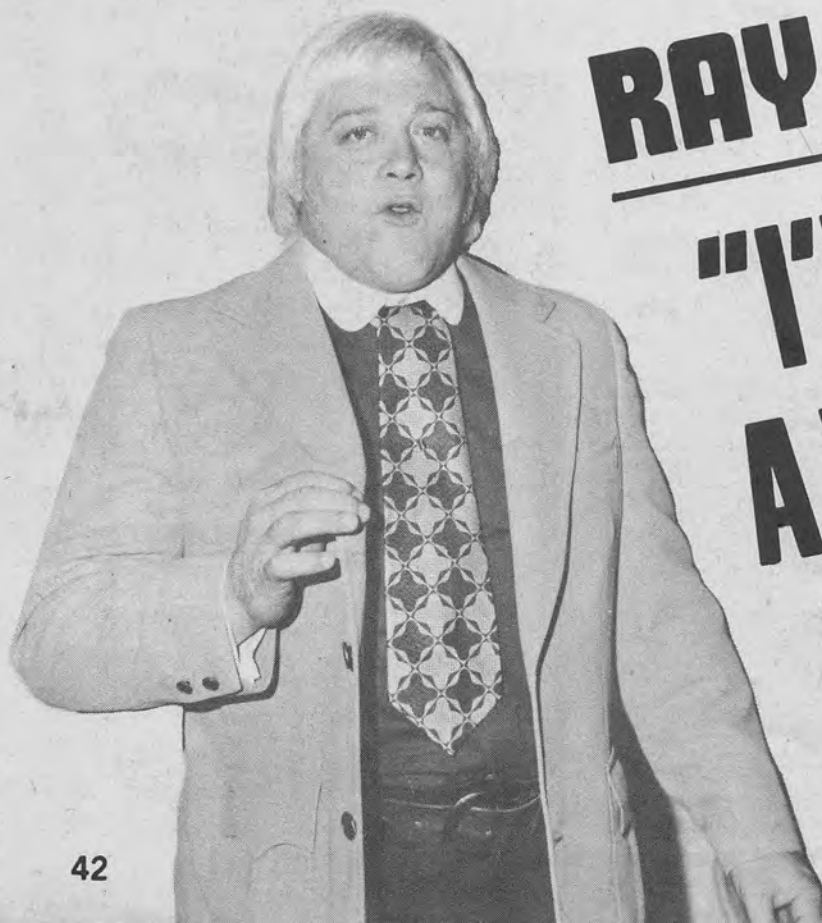
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MON. 8:30 PM

WEST PALM BEACH, FLA. (Darrell Hughes)

WRESTLER ON THE "HOTSEAT"

The "Hotseat" is not a comfortable place to be. When we put a wrestler on the "Hotseat" we interview him. But it is more than just an interview. It is a no-holds-barred question and answer forum that probes beyond the obvious and seeks to find out what others are afraid to ask. The "Hotseat" pulls no punches and plays no favorites. It is the kind of in-depth feature you'll find nowhere else!



RAY STEVENS—
**"I'VE BEEN
A WINNER ALL
MY LIFE"**



Ray Stevens viciously pounds Paul Christy during a recent match in Chicago. Ray claims it's not violent—just intelligent. "You have to be intelligent enough to take advantage of opportunities when they arise," he insists. "I'll do anything to win," he adds.

HE'S A WILY veteran with the quickness and brashness of a rookie. He's 6-0 and weighs 253 pounds. He's tough and he's mean. He's been one of the top stars almost from the first day he began wrestling professionally. His name is Ray Stevens.

Q: Welcome to the "Hotseat," Ray.

A: Thank you.

Q: Ray, fill everyone in on which titles you've held.

A: I've held every title in the wrestling business except the world's heavyweight title.

Q: Why haven't you won that one yet?

A: It's only a matter of time. Gagne, Morales, Funk, they've all been avoiding me. And I've been concentrating on defending my tag team championship. I think I can take the big title any time I want it.

Q: Okay, Ray, you're a big favorite

in some parts of California. Why do they hate you everywhere else?

A: Well, uh, the only way I can answer that is that people just don't like a winner in anything. You know how people are. They root for the underdog. I'm rarely the underdog when I wrestle.

Q: Do you wrestle differently in California from the way you wrestle in other parts of the country?

A: Not particularly, no.

Q: You give the same treatment to everybody.

A: That's right.

Q: Speaking of that treatment, it's been noticed you seem to enjoy brutalizing your opponents, especially smaller opponents. What satisfaction do you get out of brutalizing a man?

A: I get a satisfaction out of beating anybody... including my mother if she stepped in the ring with me.

Q: You would beat your own mother?

A: That's right. In that ring it's another world.

Q: But why brutalize a man rather than just beat him?

A: Why not?

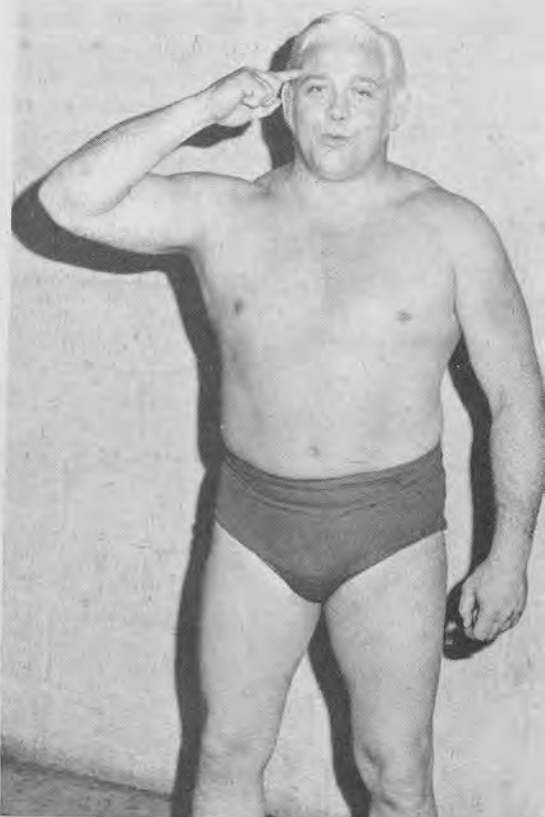
Q: Couldn't you be just as successful if you wrestled in a "cleaner" style?

A: I don't consider my style dirty. I consider myself a little more intelligent than most of these guys.

Q: What about things like raking eyes or kicking?

A: Well, you know what they say, all's fair in love or war.

Q: But what does that have to do with intelligence?



What makes Ray Stevens tick? He's pointing to it. "What you might call questionable tactics," he notes, "I call intelligent moves."

A: You have to be intelligent enough to take advantage of your opportunities when they arise.

Q: So you're admitting you use those questionable tactics?

A: I'll do anything to win and I've been a winner all my life. Besides, you're the one who says they're questionable, not me.

Q: You don't think so?

A: Nope.

Q: Okay. Another question. We've gotten letters from the midwest in which fans claim Nick Bockwinkel "carries" you in your tag team match-

es and that your team would be nothing without Nick. What do you say to that?

A: Well, that might be somebody's opinion, but I have a record behind me which speaks for itself. Nobody's ever carried me!

Q: Don't get mad.

A: Listen, you. Nick Bockwinkle is a great wrestler and he'll probably get even greater. But I have a lot more experience than Nick Bockwinkle and I'm younger than Nick Bockwinkle. Nobody carries Ray Stevens!

Q: Are you saying then that you're the crux of the team and he's still learning?

A: Don't try to put words in my mouth! I don't feel I'm any better than him. I just feel that as a team we're unbeatable. We've worked hard as a team to get where we are. Team wrestling is a lot different from individual wrestling. Nick had never done much team wrestling before joining with me. I'm not taking anything away from Nick. He more than holds his own in there. I can depend

on him all the time and he can depend on me.

Q: Okay. It is well known that champions sometimes deliberately get themselves disqualified when they feel they are losing a match and in danger of losing the belts. Does this ever happen with you and Bockwinkle.

A: Well... uhhh... yes.

Q: Have you—Ray Stevens—ever tried to get yourself deliberately dis-

qualified?

A: I have done it. Remember, you're talking about big, big money if you lose your championship. Again, if you're intelligent enough to take advantage of the rules and get away with it—why not?

Q: Do you think that's ethical conduct for a champion?

A: We're talkin' money—not ethics.

Q: Ray, you've wrestled all over

Stevens holds the U.S. Championship belt he won from Pepper Gomez in San Francisco, California, back in 1963. He's won every major title except the world championship and he plans to win that one soon.



**"IF YOU'RE INTELLIGENT
ENOUGH TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF
THE RULES AND GET
AWAY WITH IT—
WHY NOT?"**

**"I GET SATISFACTION
OUT OF BEATING
ANYBODY ...
INCLUDING MY OWN
MOTHER IF SHE
STEPPED IN THE RING
WITH ME!"**



Ray launches his most famous move, the "Bombs Away." He leaps off the top rope and smashes down on his helpless foe. Some areas have banned it—but Ray says he has plenty more in his bag of mat tricks to take its place.

guys. And any of these man can beat any of the others on any given night.

Q: You're famous, among other things, for your "Bombs Away," where you climb up on the top rope and kneedrop your opponent. Did you invent that or pick it up from somewhere?

A: I watched Dick the Bruiser years ago and learned it from him. I'm one of the few guys who was ever very friendly with the Bruiser and he told me about it and I perfected it.

Q: If you seriously damage an opponent with this hold ... let's say hospitalize or even kill someone with it ... would you go ahead and use it in your next match?

A: It wouldn't bother me in the least. Of course I'd use it.

Q: What would happen if that move is banned as it is now in some areas? For example, in Texas jumping off the top rope means you get a \$500 fine. Would you still use it?

A: I've got several other ones I can use. In fact, I very rarely use that hold anymore. When you've been

(Continued on page 54)

the world. Is there any one area that has a monopoly on the best wrestlers?

A: Yes. The United States. All the foreign wrestlers know they have to come here to make the big money and meet the best wrestlers.

Q: Is there any particular territory in the U.S. which you feel has the outstanding wrestlers?

A: No, because your top wrestlers wrestle from coast to coast.

Q: Besides yourself, naturally, whom do you consider to be some of the top wrestlers?

A: Well, there's Bruno Sammartino, Pedro Morales, Professor Tanaka, Pat Patterson, Verne Gagne, Wilbur Snyder, Bruiser, any number of

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Likes all sports.
Verne Gagne his favorite. Likes good guys. Anyone for PPs.



PETE SKALSKI (14)
518 Monon Avenue
Glassport, PA. 15045
Likes basketball.
Bill Miller his favorite. Likes good guys. Girls for PPs.



STEPHEN BUONO (12)
299 East 150th Street
New York City, NY. 10451
Likes football. Bruno his favorite. Likes good and bad guys. Anyone for pen pals.



DAVID TOM (17)
356 West 56th Street
New York City, NY. 10019
Likes pets, photography.
Bruno his favorite. Likes good guys. Girls for pen pals.



JEFFREY EARTHART (14)
514 Baltimore Avenue
Staunton, VA. 24401
Likes swimming. Apollo his favorite. Likes good guys. Anyone for pen pals.



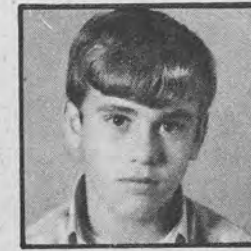
LISA CHRISTIAN (20)
1803 Southern Avenue
Fairbanks, AR. 99701
Collects antiques.
Pedro Morales her favorite. Likes good guys. Anyone for pen pals.



MARY LYNN RIZZO (13)
6325 Angling Road
Partage, MI. 49081
Likes all sports.
Bruno her favorite. Likes good and bad guys. Anyone for PPs.



DEBBIE ANDERSON (12)
5200A 8th Avenue
Pinellas Park, FL. 33565
Likes horseback riding.
Jack Brisco her favorite. Likes good and bad guys. Anyone under 15 for pen pals.

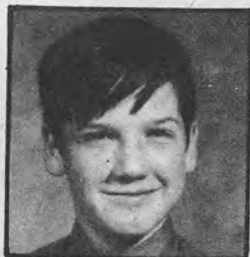


STEVEN WONDERS (14)
911 Cornelius
Tampa, FL. 33603
Likes football.
Jack Brisco his favorite. Girls for PPs.

PALS



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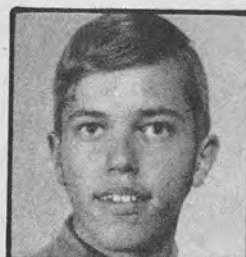
TIM OROS (14)
4256 Jamerson Road
Memphis, TN. 38122
Enjoys stamp collect-
ing. Bruiser his fav-
orite. Likes good and
bad guys. Anyone for
pen pals.



GARY DUBIN (14)
5507 Longridge
Van Nuys, CA. 91401
Likes photography.
John Tolos his fav-
orite. Likes good
and bad guys. Any-
one for pen pals.



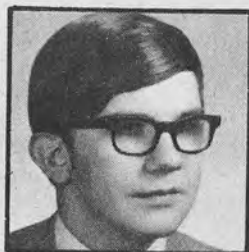
DARREN ROSS (11)
299 Humbolt Pkwy.
Buffalo, NY. 14208
Likes sports. Dom
DeNucci his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Girls for pen pals.



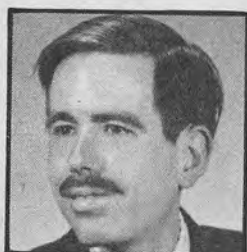
RICK POTTER (16)
1119 Martin Street
Danville, IL. 61832
Likes football.
Bruiser his favorite.
Likes good and bad guys.
Anyone for pen pals.



ED BRUNSON (11)
2744 Bells Ferry Rd.
Marietta, GA. 30060
Likes soccer, hockey.
Bobo Brazil his fav-
orite. Likes good
guys. Anyone for PPs.



JACK LEGEL (19)
15329 Gilchrist
Detroit, MI 48227
Likes all sports.
Dory Funk Jr. his
favorite. Likes
good guys. Anyone
for pen pals.



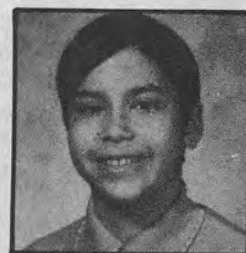
TOM O'GRADY (28)
867 41st Street
Des Moines, IA 50312
Likes drawing portraits.
Pedro Morales his
favorite. Likes good
guys. Anyone for PPs.



SANDRA KAPLAN (10)
10117 Bassoon Drive
Houston, TX. 77025
Likes skating, swim-
ming. Red Bastien
his favorite. Likes
good guys. Girls for
pen pals.



JOANY McCAFFERTY (13)
50 Hopkins Road
Brockton, MA. 02401
Likes dancing, animals.
Pedro Morales his fav-
orite. Likes good guys.
Pedro fans for PPs.



WILLIE SANTIAGO (14)
60 West 104th Street
New York City, NY. 10025
Likes playing softball.
Mil Mascaras his favor-
ite. Likes good guys.
Boys for pen pals.



JANET CARTER (14)
Church Street, Box 32
Lebanon Junction, KY. 40150
Likes skating, dancing.
Jerry Jarrett her favorite.
Likes good and bad guys.
Anyone for pen pals.



JOHN OVERMAN (9)
817 Pine Valley Road
Goldsboro, N.C. 27530
Likes horses and mini
bikes. Apollo his fav-
orite. Likes good and
bad guys. Girls for
pen pals.



MIKE FRANCIS (13)
11 Pontiac Street
Oxford, MI. 48051
Likes swimming.
Bobo Brazil his
favorite. Likes
good and bad guys.
Anyone for pen pals.



MIKE BADGERO (13)
13 Pontiac Street
Oxford, MI. 48051
Likes fishing.
The Sheik his fav-
orite. Likes good
and bad guys. Any-
one for PPs.



BECKI CROSS (11)
191 Stafford Avenue
Brunswick, GA. 31530
Likes horseback rid-
ing. Jack Brisco her
favorite. Likes good and
bad guys. Anyone for PPs.

CLOTHES DON'T MAKE THE MAN

(Continued from Page 33)

"Where's your wrestling outfit?" I asked him.

"Don't need one," he says.

"Then he goes out and polishes off his opponent in 17 seconds!"

And that was how Hank James became a wrestler. So when he went into the promoter's office asking what a Funk was—the promoter wasn't surprised.

"Nothing this guy does surprises me anymore," he said.

James was shown a picture of Dory Sr. and promptly laughed.

"You mean *that's* a Funk?" he asked in disbelief. "That cat's got to be a hundred years old. I don't mess with no old men."

But James had signed an open contract and so the match was made. And up until the time he strutted into the ring he insulted Dory Sr. every chance he got, calling him every name in the book.

As can be imagined, Dory Sr. wasn't too thrilled about the whole thing. "Wrestles in his clothes, huh?" Dory noted before the match. "Well after I'm through with him he won't be able to get a plugged nickel for his duds."

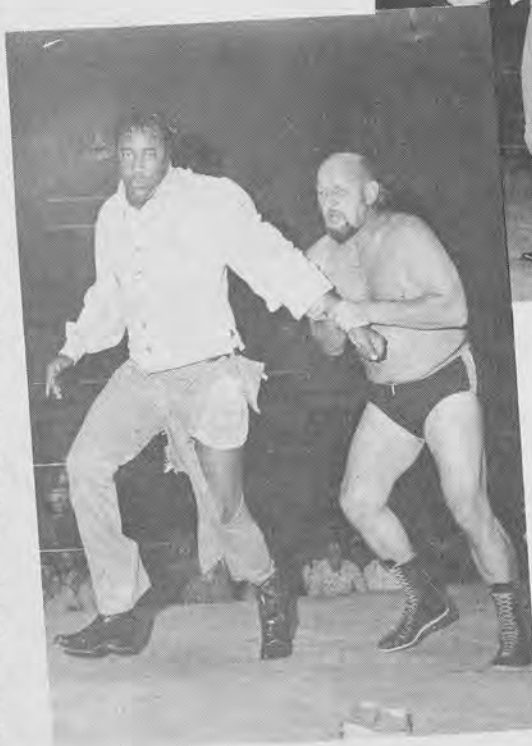
James, as usual, was in the ring first, acknowledging the jeers and catcalls of the crowd and getting his customary shoeshine. Then Dory bounded down the aisle and into the ring as the fans leaned forward on their seats in anticipation. James had predicted a pin in 20 seconds or less ("Depends on how much he runs, but he's so old he can't run too fast," Hank had said).

Hank started off as if he meant to pin Dory in 15 seconds. But he soon found out exactly what a Funk is.

First, Dory ripped the cigar out of his mouth and scaled his hat into the crowd. Then he ripped James' shirt and then went to work on his pants.

"R-r-r-rip!" went the expensive flare trousers. Before long James was tangled up in his own pants. And when Dory finished the job, poor Hank James was left wearing his boots, his undershorts and one-half of a shirt.

After ripping Hank's clothes off, Dory added a few right hands for good measure. Funk didn't win, however. In fact, he was disqualified. But James' pin streak had ended and he looked as if he'd walked into



Look what's happening to Mr. Cool now! James went to the promoter to find out what "a Funk" was—and man did he find out! Dory Sr. just tears ol' Hank to pieces and those precious clothes aren't too precious anymore. After the match Dory Sr. asked "Anybody want to buy some slightly used clothes?" Nobody did.



an airplane propeller.

"Guess he found out what a Funk is," Dory Sr. said in the dressing room with a big grin on his face. "Anybody want to buy some slightly used clothes? Heck, I don't know if even the Salvation Army would take that stuff now."

The door to Hank James' dressing room was shut and his valet was standing guard outside. Evidently,

the usually talkative Mr. James wasn't too interested in shooting his mouth off right about now.

"What's he doing in there?" we inquired of the valet.

"Mr. James is getting dressed," the valet replied.

"In what?" we asked.

"You know something?" the valet answered. "I've been kinda wonderin' about that myself!" □



Don Bolander, M.A., University of Chicago; B.S., Northwestern University; Director of Career Institute; authority on adult education.

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Question *Are there other advantages to be gained by acquiring a command of good English?*

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THE OUTLAWS HAVE REUNITED *(Continued from Page 25)*

real good competition there. How about goin' with me?"

"Why do you want me to go? What's in it for you?" Murdoch questioned.

"I need a partner to help me get at some guys down there," Robley explained. "Just let me have your murderous style in my corner for a few matches—then you can go single again. What do you say?"

Murdoch agreed. He arrived in Texas and stirred up a storm. He made a shambles out of Robley's enemies and then he went single.

"Big mouths," Murdoch grumbled, "big mouths. Dat's all those guys in Texas have. No guts, just big mouths."

Terry Funk, Lord Al Hays and Ricky Romero, among others, took offense at Murdoch's remarks and he began feuding with them. This is when his big change occurred.

"I wrestled him three times," Lord Al Hays explained, "and in each match he seemed to be losing the killer instinct I felt in the first one. He was becoming sort of a nice chap."

"That's right," Romero added. "He wasn't out for blood. I couldn't understand it."

"That's when I called my shrink and he suggested I go back with Dusty," Murdoch said. "Well, here I am. When do we start murdering?"

Rhodes also lost a bit without Murdoch.

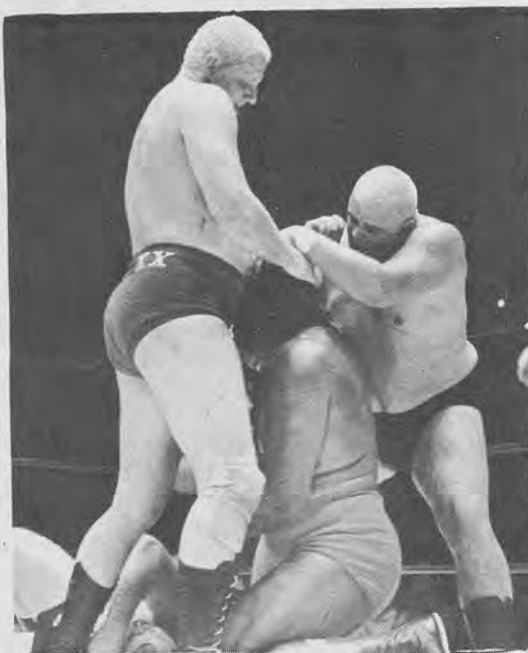
"Yeah, I noticed it," Rhodes admitted. "I started clowning around more and more. I let Hennig do most of the hard work in the tag matches. That's not like me. When I was with Dick it was a 50-50 deal."

Dusty wrestled tag team most of the time he was away from Dick. However, he did go single for awhile and it proved unprofitable.

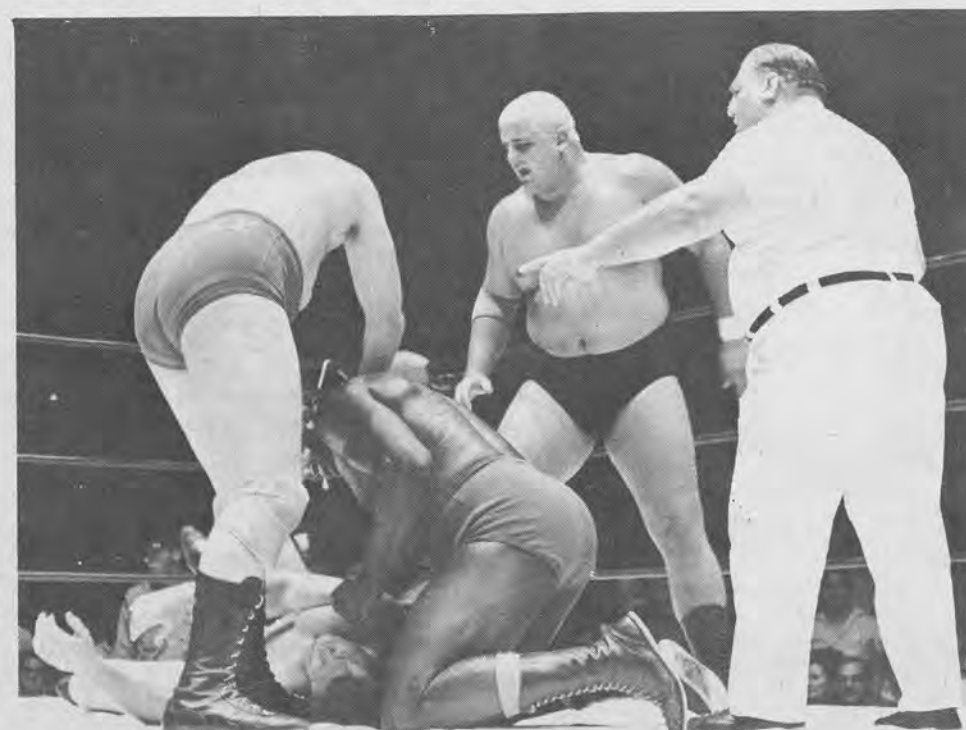
"I got so used to tag teaming that single matches were odd to me. I wrestled Wahoo McDaniel a few times and that S.O.B. used a foreign object to split my head open. There was nobody there to stop him. If Dick was there he'd have come in and busted that Indian wide open. It's good to have him back again."

Are the Outlaws in the business just to try and kill people?

"Hell no," roared Rhodes, "We are in this business mainly for satisfaction—green satisfaction that is—



Murdoch and Rhodes show what their particular brand of mayhem is like (left and below) as they gang up on Bobo Brazil after throwing him on top of his already unconscious partner, Dewey Robertson. "The more guys we put out of commission," says Murdoch, "the less guys the promoters have to pay out. That means more dough for us!"



money! Tearin' our opponents apart just makes it more fun for us when we go to the bank."

"Agreed," Murdoch interrupted. "The more guys we put out of commission the less guys the promoters have to pay out. That means more dough for us. When we clean up a territory we'll just move on and clean up another. That's the business, man!"

Now that they've been apart for such a long time, do they think their teamwork will be as sharp as it was back in 1971?

"Sharper," they both agreed.

"We have worked out new moves in the gym that have made us a precision machine," Rhodes said. "We are one man when we're in the ring. No one can destroy The Outlaws—no one."

Many a posse of wrestlers have been unable to bring 'em in. The Outlaws haven't met their match yet—as far as they're concerned.

And now that they're back together again they don't have to worry about being too nice or going soft! □

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- Nearly every person who built great wealth for himself in recent years did so with little or no cash and wound up with a lot of money!

If you met these people, as I have, you'd soon be convinced that the best way to build a fortune today is by using OPM—other people's money. It is the most powerful, the greatest key to fast riches, starting with little or no cash, known in the world today!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ty Hicks has built several fortunes for himself and others, using the methods he gives you in this book. Today he has several automatic incomes going for him. "Automatic" because he spends less than two days a week, supervising these businesses—with ample time for travel, entertainment, hobbies!

During his career, Mr. Hicks has made money in hotels, apartment houses, rental real estate, boating, shipping, publishing, amusements, the stock market, and theaters.

More amazing still, he began his search for wealth with no contacts, no private fortune, his father having died when Mr. Hicks was only 14.

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- Cliff R. using the secret just mentioned above. Cliff purchased and sold some 25 properties in a six-month period. His profit on these deals was \$68,000!
- Sam T. used another one of the sources revealed in this book to get \$400. He invested this money in valuable postage stamps, and sold them to fellow stamp club members. Within 3 years, he was worth \$500,000!
- You'll see how Larry M. got the money he needed to buy \$14,000 worth of paintings. In 2 years, he was offered almost FIVE TIMES as much for them. But Larry waited another year and sold them for more than SIX TIMES the purchase price: \$100,000. This is a neat income—particularly when you remember that Larry didn't invest a dime of his own!
- Ben D. considered such a poor credit risk that six banks had refused him time after time, used a method revealed in this book to get a \$50,000 five-year loan in less than 30 minutes! He used this money to buy a restaurant. Today, he has five booming restaurants, and more money than he can spend!
- Joel L. started with a gas station which he took over, using one of the many easy loans I tell you about. Once Joel had the gas station, he began to look around for other easy-money



businesses. Soon he had a real estate office, a pet shop, a hardware store, a second gas station, and a laundry! His net income from these businesses was \$75,000 the first year!

- Herb F. was a mailman for the Post Office, in a little town in the midwest. Using the method I tell you about—for obtaining large sums of money for as little as \$8 a month—he obtained \$40,000 without putting up a cent! He used this money to buy a \$600,000 motel. Today he's on easy street after only a few weeks!
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SHERRI LEE'S TERRIBLE RISKS

(Continued from Page 18)

more than 4,000 spectators cheered wildly and wolf-whistled like love-sick bulls as Sherri took only six minutes to demolish her opponent with a crushing leg scissors.

And at the end of the match she looked just as good as when she began. For the promoters in Florida—good-looking Sherri Lee has proven to be a gold mine.

"She wears lipstick and mascara and everything in the ring," one promoter noted, "so to begin with she looks better than most of the others. She's so appealing and has an innocent, schoolgirl face. When I put her on the card men pack the joint. I think if she was ever defeated, we'd have a riot. She brings glamor to the sport."

Sherri herself is a bit reluctant to talk about the effect she has on men. But she does admit she goes out of her way to look as gorgeous as possible.

"I enjoy being a woman," Sherri said, "and that means I enjoy looking my best at all times. That includes when I get into the ring. That's why people are always so surprised when they meet me or see me for the first time. They expect me to be tough looking. I've had my bruises and broken bones but I try to maintain my femininity at all times."

Standing just a false eyelash over five-foot-tall, Sherri, the mother of four, has a 23-inch waist and long brown hair. She has been wrestling for about a dozen years—although she looks barely more than a teenager. She wrestles superbly, because she loves the sport.

"When I was a youngster I used to go to the matches all the time," Sherri said. "I was so fascinated by it I got a job as secretary to Billy Wolfe, the man who really created girl wrestling. I simply couldn't resist the lure, so I began working out, doing calisthenics and toughening my body. And despite all the bruises, I still love it as much now as I ever did."

Sherri certainly has had her share of bruises.

"I've had chipped elbows, my nose has been broken twice and I've had my share of black eyes," she said in her soft, sweet, southern drawl. "But I have been lucky. I've been in the



Sherri Lee, obviously exhausted after furious bout with Vachon, heads for her dressing room.

hospital only once. That happened after one of my very first bouts. My opponent weighed 140 pounds. She was as tough as nails. She kicked me in the stomach and ripped open a deep cut under my eye. After that my parents pleaded with me to stop but I couldn't. It was in my blood."

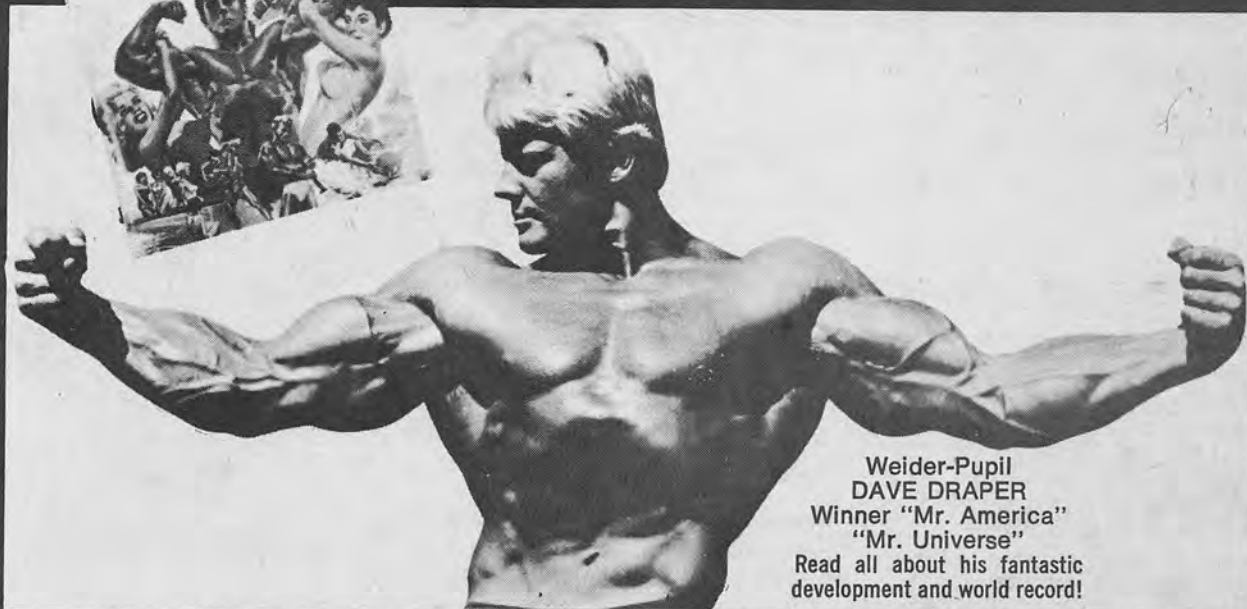
To an extent, Sherri is happy that nobody will believe she is a wrestler. It gives her some privacy and a chance to be alone with her children. She enjoys being a mother as much as being a wrestler.

But as far as the men in the Florida area are concerned—Sherri the wrestler is the one they come to see. One fan, who is thinking of starting a Sherri Lee fan club, summed it up the best when he recently said:

"The one thing wrestling doesn't have too much of is beauty. Let's face it. How gorgeous are Ivan Koloff and Killer Kowalski? The girls bring beauty and grace into the sport. And when you get one that looks like Sherri Lee—well, you just have to go and see her wrestle. But I still don't understand how she does it. She gets kicked and gouged and still looks so absolutely beautiful. She's petite and feminine. If I weren't a fan and you told me she was a lady wrestler I wouldn't believe you!"

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RAY STEVENS (Continued from Page 44)

Ray chokes the life out of Bearcat Wright during a 1962 match in the San Francisco Cow Palace. Although he's a favorite in California and is hated almost every place else, he insists his style never changes no matter where he's appearing.



around as long as I have you have to know more than one way to win. I do. It'd be no problem whatsoever.

Q: People are wondering why, in the midst of a successful career in the midwest and on the west coast, you came east to get a crack at Pedro Morales' W.W.W.F. heavyweight title?

A: It goes back to what I said before. I know I can beat Morales. I know I can beat Gagne. I know I can beat Funk. I feel all of these guys have avoided me. Actually, I haven't really pressed the issue until just lately because I'm one of the biggest moneymakers in the wrestling business. But now I'm starting to press the issue and I feel these guys have all avoided me intentionally.

Q: Okay, Ray. To change the subject, recently an old "buddy" of yours, if we can call him that, Paul DeMarco, was stabbed by a fan after leaving an arena in California and was injured pretty badly. When you hear about something like that, does it give you second thoughts about becoming a wrestler?

A: Of course you think about it and I feel badly for DeMarco. I don't like to see something like that happen to anybody. But anyone in public life is always open to the possibility of some nut attacking him. If you go by that, being a political candidate or President is more dangerous. Look what happened to the Ken-

nedys, Martin Luther King and George Wallace. You can't let it stop you because if you do you'll always be running scared. I don't know what they did to the guy who stabbed Paul DeMarco, but I think any fan who attacks a wrestler should have his weapon taken away and be forced to spend five minutes in a locked room with the wrestler he attacked. Then they should televise what that guy looks like when he leaves that room. I guarantee you there wouldn't be too many more attacks.

Q: Okay, Ray, we're going to ask you a question we ask everyone we put on the "Hotseat." If you were in charge of all wrestling in the U.S. and Canada, what changes, if any, would you make?

A: I don't know that I'd change anything. I think wrestling's okay as it is. After all, it has made me a pretty wealthy man. I'm not going to knock that.

Q: You seem to put a heavy emphasis on money. It's popped up a few times during this interview. Why?

A: Because I remember what it was like when I didn't have any. Money brings you independence. You can be your own man.

Q: Okay, Ray. Let's wrap it up. Is there anything you'd like to tell your fans?

A: No. They know pretty much how I feel about 'em. □

CHRIS COLT

(Continued from Page 30)

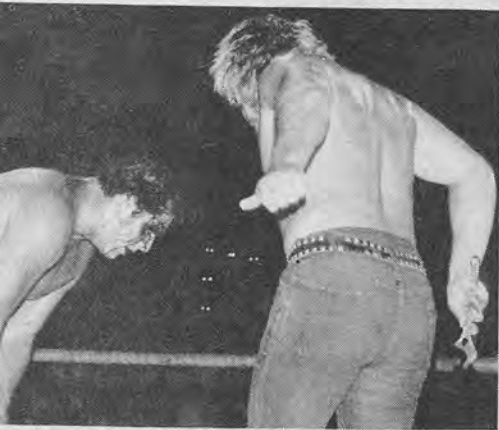
For awhile, Colt teamed with Jack Dillinger, formerly of the Chain Gang, who'd also lost a partner. It was successful, but didn't last long.

Chris didn't know what to do. He left wrestling for awhile. He simply didn't want any part of it without Ron. "I couldn't be half of a Hell's Angel," he recalls.

Finally, he talked Ron into becoming his manager. It was a rough decision for Ron to make since it meant giving up lucrative show business contracts. But the former Hell's Angels were too close to be split apart, so Ronald left Hollywood to join Chris, who gave up the Hell's Angels' name.

Chris is called the world's most controversial wrestler. The following revelations may give you some idea why.

"I've been influenced by a lot of



Chris works over Ellis with an adjustable wrench. He admits he'll do anything so he can win.

people and impressed by many more, but no person has influenced me more than Janis Joplin. When she performed she had something to say and man she said it. She gave so much of herself to her audience until she couldn't give any more and she finally went to the ultimate.

"I'm the same in this respect, whether I'm doing a TV interview or in the ring. I give my public 100 percent of myself. I figure the public that pays to see me deserves it. Whether they can dig me or not isn't important. What is, is that I give myself to them completely.

"I followed Janis' career real close and when she went, she didn't even leave a landmark in this world.

(Continued on page 56)

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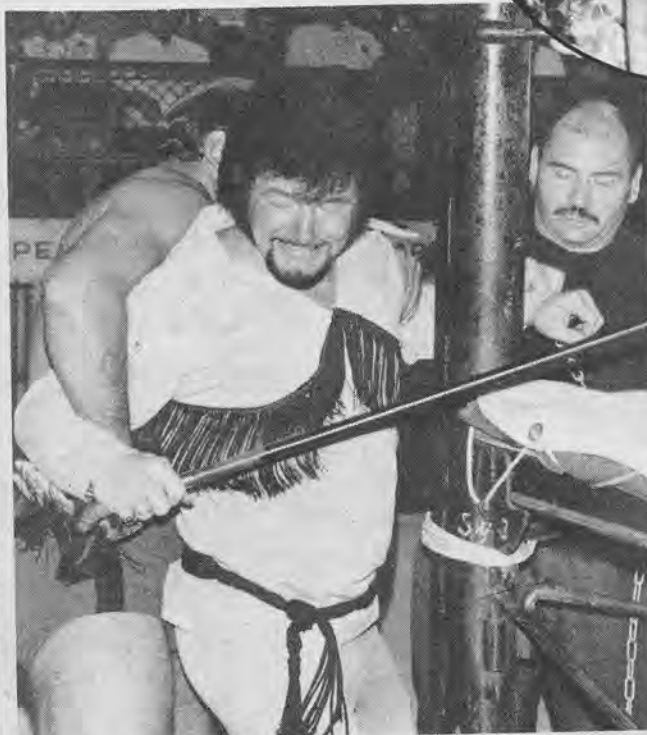
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CHRIS COLT (Continued from Page 55)

There's not even a monument or tombstone to mark her grave. She went real heavy. I had nothing but admiration and respect for her.

"When I started wrestling and wore far out clothes promoters often frowned upon me because of this. I began to think to myself, 'Should I stop it? Must I change and blend in with them?' I mean when I saw Janis, I said to myself 'she's not trying to revolutionize anything, she doesn't picket or march for any causes, she's just being herself.' I saw myself in her. I just wanted to be the way I want to be, dress the way I want to



The late singer, Janis Joplin (above), was the person who Chris most admired. "When she died," Chris admitted, "I broke down and cried. I was supposed to do a TV show the next Monday but I couldn't." Left: Ronald of Hollywood is prevented from using his steel cane. He left show business to rejoin Chris.

dress and relax when I can and be myself, man.

"When she died I cried. And for a wrestler to cry...man, you're supposed to hide that because you're taught to be a man and not to cry and like nobody's going to break you down. When she died on Oct. 5, 1970 I broke down and cried and I couldn't do a TV show on the Monday night following because I was too busted up inside. When she went she took a piece of my heart. By the way, that was one of her biggest numbers and one of her biggest selling records.

"They took her body and cremated her and sprinkled her ashes over Marin County north of San Francisco. You know, I'm not copying anything, but when two individuals believe in the same things and think the same

way, you're not copying each other, it's just saying, you were where my head is at. But nobody else ever brought my thoughts out of me the way she did, nobody else had the guts to do what she did.

"Like when I die man, I want her music played at my funeral and I don't want them to dress me in a white shirt and tie and put my hands across my chest like everybody else does. I think I have the right to call my own shot at my own funeral although I won't feel or know anything about. But I want to be dressed in my boots, a sloppy pair of jeans and a T-shirt and I also want to be cremated and have my ashes spread over Marin County.

"Janis gave everything she had to her public and held nothing back. She told the truth in her music and

her public knew it, and when she died at the age of 27 I think half the world died a little with her.

"I figure it like this. I'm 26 and I give my audience, the people who pay to see me, everything I have. Whether they like me or not is their business. I don't really care."

On Monday at 6:30 p.m. we leave for a country fair date in Syracuse, Nebraska. Chris and Bill Howard are teaming against Stan Pulaski and Jerry Miller. Chris gets himself disqualified, as usual, and after the match there isn't even time for a quick shower. We have to be back in Omaha, 50 miles away, in 45 minutes for a TV taping. We make it with five minutes to spare.

Chris is wrestling a young fellow who's much taller and heavier than he. The youngster, a rookie, tries to show off by shoving his knee into Chris' groin. A minute later a huge mouse comes up under the rookie's eye, the result of six quick, short punches, courtesy of Christopher Colt.

During the interview, Chris suddenly explodes while on camera. He picks up a metal chair and smashes it clean through a sponsor's back-drop. Then he smashes the mike and table where Joe Dusek and the announcer were commentating. Chris storms off.

It's one in the morning before we leave the station and we don't hit the sack until 4 a.m. I have a 9:30 a.m. plane to catch, so when I get up the following morning at 7:30 I don't bother saying goodbye to Chris and Ronald. They need their sleep. They're dog-tired and have to be in Sioux Falls, South Dakota that night, a 360-mile round trip.

I think I'm starting to know this man I've spent all this time with, but I find out I am wrong. As I wait for my cab outside their apartment, I spot the little girl with the bandage on her head, the one Colt knocked into the pool. She's carrying a brand new, expensive-looking doll.

She shows me her new present and tells me "Mr. Colt bought it for me because he landed on me when they pushed him into the pool."

And then I realized that Chris Colt—a man I saw attack another man with a wrench... a man who destroyed a TV studio... a man with whom I'd become a shadow for a few days—was as much of a mystery now as he was a few days ago!

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WRESTLING CAPITALS

(Continued from Page 12)

complained to the referee that Spoiler had a foreign object in the glove he wears. But before the referee could search the bearded giant, Spoiler was slugging away at Strongbow's face.

The Chief fell to the mat whereupon Spoiler applied a deadly nerve hold. He kept the Chief in it until the fans started whooping it up for the Chief to go into a war dance. Wham! He hit Spoiler with a tomahawk chop, forcing him to release the hold!

Now the Chief was on his feet dancing—war style. He delivered three brain-chopping tomahawk chops and



The Spoiler climbs to the top rope and prepares to jump on Chief Jay Strongbow. But the Chief rolled out of the way just in the nick of time.

one was so powerful it sent Spoiler flying clear across the ring!

At this point the referee regretted something he did earlier in the program. He'd left his towel on a ringpost. Spoiler ran over to the corner, grabbed the towel and choked the Chief until he collapsed. The referee began counting for Spoiler to break the hold. Spoiler refused and was immediately disqualified.

Other action: Joe Turco was disqual-



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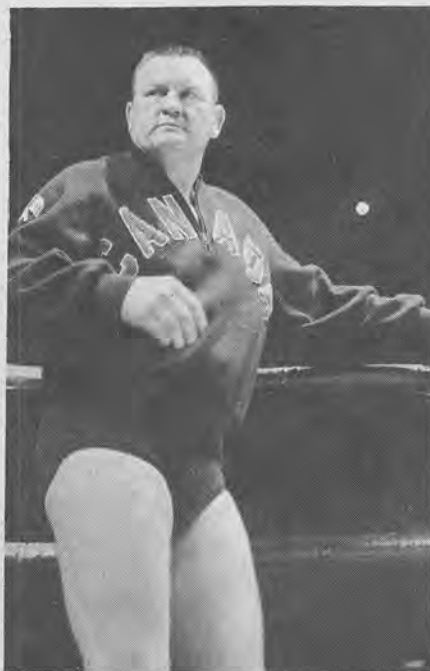
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"Superstar" Billy Graham (left) made his first Canadian invasion a very successful one by taking a 12-man Battle Royal in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Below: Gene Kiniski won the first fall in his match against Dory Funk Jr., but Dory rallied to keep his N.W.A. title.



ified against Lee Wong... Chuck O'Connor Boston crabbed Blackjack Slade... Sonny King wrestled to a draw with Mr. Fugi... Tony Garea stopped Bull Pometti... Buddy Wolf upset El Olympico.

CANADA CALLING By Janis Mikula and Scott Bennie

"Superstar" Billy Graham's first appearance at the Winnipeg, Manitoba, arena proved to be a very unpopular but profitable one. He walked off \$15,000 richer because he was the winner of a Battle Royal.

The event was supposed to be a 14-man contest, but it came down to 12 as Crusher and Dusty Rhodes were declared unfit for battle by the doctor. They had wrestled each other earlier in the evening and both men lost too much blood to be considered for battle. Crusher, incidentally, won that match when he threw Rhodes out of the ring and Dusty couldn't get back before the "20" count.

So the Battle Royal was reduced to a 12-man affair.

Dave Muir was the first to go. He was followed by Rene Goulet, Don Muraco and the Vachon brothers. Hawaiian star Lani Kealoha was next, followed by Larry Hennig, Dick Murdoch and George Gadaski.

This left Ivan Koloff, Billy Graham and sensational Billy Robinson in the ring. Koloff and Graham both went after the British sensation, Robinson. He managed to dump Koloff out of the ring without much trouble—but as he was doing this, near a corner, Billy Graham mounted the ropes and came

crashing down on Robinson's back. Robinson couldn't continue and Graham was declared the winner.

Graham was disqualified in his earlier bout against Don Muraco... Billy Robinson stopped Butcher Vachon... Mad Dog Vachon downed Larry Hennig... Ivan Koloff and Lani Kealoha battled to a 15-minute draw... George Gadaski and Rene Goulet drew and Dick Murdoch upset Dave Muir.

Former N.W.A. champion Gene Kiniski finally got his chance to wrestle the man who beat him for the title, Dory Funk Jr. at Abbotsford, B.C.

The match started off with both men wrestling clean and exchanging holds. Kiniski won the first fall when he caught the champ off guard.

The second fall saw the champ even things up when he caught Gene in a painful suplex to win the fall. Fall three saw the champ dazzle the challenger with spinning toe holds to retain his belt.

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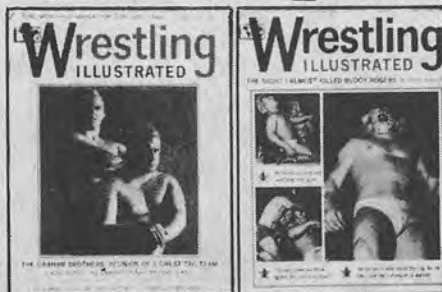
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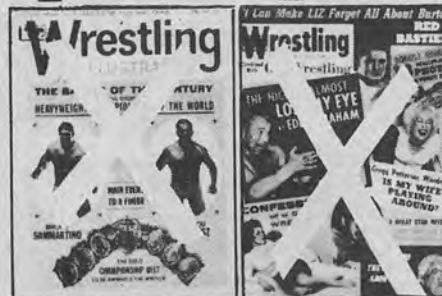
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HOW PEDRO BEAT ERNIE LADD

(Continued from Page 37)

But as the clock crept towards the one-hour mark, Ladd began to seriously weaken. The superbly-conditioned Morales was beginning to overcome Ernie's strength advantage.

Pedro whipped Ernie into the ropes three consecutive times and each time Ladd came off he was met with a bone-rattling body block. The fourth time Ladd was expecting the block. As he bounced off the ropes he ducked low to block Pedro. It was just what Morales had been waiting for.

He leaped over the ducking Ladd, hooking his legs under Ernie's arms as he flew over him. A forward roll sent Ernie flipping onto his back with Pedro's legs pinning his shoulders to the canvas.

"One!"

"Two!"

"Three!"

It was over—and not a minute too soon. Pedro took the match some 45 seconds before curfew!

The crowd went wild as Pedro held up the Americas' belt, signifying he'd become the first man in history to hold both the W.W.W.F. world championship belt and the Americas' championship belt.

"The King is dead!" roared a delighted fan. "Long live the new King!"

"Viva Morales!" screamed another supporter.

Ladd didn't hear anything. He was stretched out on the canvas—flat on his back—exhausted!

Morales (right) grabs an official by his jacket after the official took the belt back. The official is warning Pedro he'll face big trouble if he doesn't let go of him. Below: An angry Morales heads back to the dressing room.

But in the midst of all this celebration, a young official stepped up to the ring apron and requested Pedro to hand over the belt. Thinking it was to protect it from fans who might try to snatch it, Pedro handed it over.

"You'll leave it in my locker?" Morales asked.

"No," the official said. "It belongs to Ladd."

At first Pedro grinned, figuring it was a gag. But he saw the expression on the man's face and immediately realized it was no gag.

"Whaddya mean it belongs to Ladd?!" Morales exploded.

"This was supposed to be a two-



A jubilant Pedro Morales holds the Americas' Championship belt high in the air as the crowd goes wild.





Pedro is interviewed by Mexican TV's Luis Mangana before his important title bout against Ladd. The champion was angry at the treatment he received, especially since he flew out to the coast a day early just so he'd be available for such interviews. "I still love the people in California," Morales declared, "but that Commission's terrible."

out-of-three-fall match," the official explained. "You won only one fall before curfew. Therefore the belt can't change hands."

"Wait a minute!" Pedro exclaimed. "The rules say a title changes hands if only one fall is scored and curfew runs out as long as there's no disqualification!"

"Not in this state," shot back the official, who by now was being roundly booed since announcer Jimmy Lennon had just explained what happened to the crowd.

"Besides," added the official, "if you accept this belt you have to give up the other one. You can't have two."

Morales didn't believe his ears. He had flown 3,000 miles across country, put his W.W.W.F. belt on the line, and all the time he never had a chance to win the Americas' belt!

He was livid with rage. He grabbed the official by the lapels as the crowd exhorted him to belt him and take the belt.

"Hit me and you're suspended for a year!" the official shot back, raising his finger in Pedro's face to emphasize his warning. Morales was so worked up he didn't realize he was now holding the man up in the air off the ground. So, when he let go in exasperation, the official fell to the apron and down to the floor.

"That'll cost you!" he roared.

But Pedro never heard him. Still in a state of shock, he ran back to the dressing room and took his anger out on the lockers. He was still cursing in Spanish and throwing things when we walked in and tried to

get his side of the story.

"What can I say?" Pedro snapped. "You were there. You saw what happened. I beat him. Then they tell me I've got to give up my belt to get his. Isn't that something? Even if I win I lose."

"I signed a two-match contract with Ladd stating if I beat him I'd give him a rematch. I don't know if that's in effect. How can I give him a rematch? Rematch for what? He still has the belt and there's no way I can get it without losing mine."

"Some deal, eh? Very generous. They'll let me have the Americas' belt but I have to give up mine. Do you believe it? I'll tell you one thing. This is the last time I'm coming out here. If I have to go through with that second match I'll do it because I won't break a contract. But they'll never get me here again. Not even if they apologize."

"I love the people of California. They're wonderful. But this commission is for the birds. They've got rules that are unbelievable. And they don't even tell you about them beforehand! They can take that Americas' championship and you know what they can do with it!"

Morales had cooled off a little bit, but not much. He stripped off his trunks and walked towards the shower. Slam! Another locker had a new dent.

But you couldn't blame the usually easy-going Puerto Rican for blowing his top. He'd traveled 3,000 miles only to find out the belt he wanted could be obtained only at the cost of the one he already owned! □

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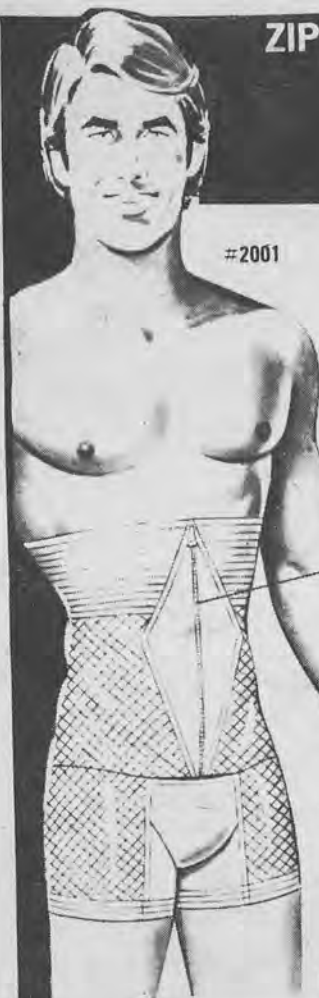
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SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from Page 8)

at all? If he's the greatest wrestler in the U.S. how come I saw Reuben Juarez beat him easily even though Graham was receiving assistance from Ernie Ladd? Enough said.

ADAM REDFIELD
New York City, N.Y.

FIND FUNK!

Dory Jr., why don't you come to San Francisco to defend your title? The last time you were here you almost lost your belt to Kenji Shibuya. And if your brother Terry is looking for top competition he should wrestle at the Cow Palace. If you do decide to come here, let me know so I'll be able to get



If Dory Funk Jr. can't find good competition, he can always go to San Francisco, where some of the world's best grapplers appear.

you a room at the General Hospital. You'll need it after Ray Stevens, Pat Patterson, Pepper Martin and Paul DeMarco, just to name a few, get through with you.

JOE FERNANDEZ
San Francisco, Calif.

BAD EXPERIMENT

I'd like to tell you about a little experiment I tried involving "bad guys." I called it, "Who is the Greatest Villain in Wrestling?" Thirty of us chose the wrestlers who we thought would fit into the experiment. We decided on The Sheik, Bobby Heenan and King Curtis. After the first 15 votes were in, Bobby Heenan led The Sheik by two votes. After the 30

In an experiment involving 30 fans, The Sheik was selected as wrestling's biggest villain by eight votes over Bobby Heenan. Guess that's why our fans voted The Sheik the 1972 "Villain of the Year" in a poll.

votes were counted, The Sheik had Heenan whipped by eight votes. This little experiment proves The Sheik is wrestling's greatest villain!

RICK YOUNG
Woodstock, Ontario, Canada

TANAKA IS TOPS!

In your November ratings you had Professor Tanaka rated eighth. Under the masterminding of the Grand Wizard, the Professor could easily defeat that bum Morales. He is the number one contender for that belt—not eighth. Toru is twice as good as that so-called wrestler Bruno Sammartino. Come on rating department. Let's change 'em. Tanaka is number one!

MICHAEL MISSTISHIN
St. Clair, Pa.

OOOH NO!

I have been reading THE WRESTLER for two-and-a-half years. There is one guy who really distracts me and that's Pampero Firpo. He's a menace everywhere he goes. He's been carrying that toy he calls a voodoo doll with him and says he beat Pedro Morales. Pedro was only a rookie then. Somebody better tell Firpo to retire before Pedro catches up with him. I'd like to see Bruno against Firpo—Oooohhh yeahh!

WILLIAM PACHECO
Bronx, N.Y.

THE MATCH

I am writing to inform all Bruno Sammartino fans who were not at Shea Stadium to see him wrestle Pedro Morales. Pedro had him beaten to the punch. Every hold Bruno put Pedro in, Pedro had a counter for. The champ was a lot faster than Bruno when it came down to everything. Granted, Bruno gave the champ a tough time, but he wasn't able to pin him or defeat him. This proves that Pedro is the better of the two and all you Bruno fans who were there



know it! I hope you know the truth now about your so-called champion Bruno Sammartino!

TOM FORD
Bridgewater, Mass.

OBJECTS—HIS OBJECT

As a 13-year-old dedicated fan, I feel I must write this letter in hopes that if you print it, it might help in some small way to clean up wrestling.

Re: "Is The Use Of Foreign Objects Killing Wrestling? (INSIDE WRESTLING—Nov./'72).

Friday night you're off to the arena to see the matches. In the third bout a wrestler takes a well-sharpened pencil from his trunks and rakes it across his opponent's forehead. The wrestler is seriously injured and has to be carried out on a stretcher enroute to the hospital. You think to yourself, "Is this wrestling?"

Many people do not attend wrestling matches anymore because the sight of blood revolts them. But then many people come to the matches in hopes of seeing a man bleed to death. These people are sadists and enjoy seeing a man bleed.

Is the use of foreign objects killing wrestling? Many wrestlers are now being forced to use foreign objects because fans are demanding to see more and more blood. This action must stop or professional wrestling will turn into nothing more than a bloodbath!

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W-49

BOBBY SHANE

(Continued from Page 38)

He must be getting senile as well. He kept on coming back for more punishment. I finally let it be known I was tired of wasting my energy on a has-been and might have to get a little rough the next time. I figured it'd scare him off.

It scared him, but it didn't scare him off. It scared him into committing the most cowardly, despicable and heinous act ever seen in a professional wrestling match. While my foot was momentarily tangled in the ropes (I had chased him out of the ring at the time), he ran back in, jumped on my leg and put me out of action for a few weeks.

Then, to top it off, when I'm healed and ready to go, he says I have to defeat his little boy to get a shot



Bobby Shane claims Eddie Graham is trying to hide behind his son Mike. "I'm no child-beater," says Bobby. "I want the old man."

at him! Is he so petrified of Bobby Shane he has to hide behind a child? I'm no child-beater.

All right, Edwin. The game is up. I'm going to rid the sport of wrestling of you and your kind. It won't be done for revenge. It will be done as a public service. There is no place in professional wrestling for an over-age, senile, decrepit misfit like you. Graham!

EDDIE GRAHAM

(Continued from Page 39)

train, something you know nothing about, and as a result I'm in much better shape for an "old man" than you are for whatever you are.

You say you've been taking pity on me. Strange. I haven't noticed. You'd think a man who wants to see me retire so bad would do something about it with all the opportunities you've had. Admit it, Shane. You're a phony. If you had a chance to break my leg or hurt me in any way you'd have jumped



Eddie Graham squeezes until Johnny Valentine's eyes bug out. Eddie says Shane should learn how to wrestle before taking out ads.

at it. Your lame excuses don't fool anyone.

But I've already wasted more time on you than I wanted. You're not worth it. You can't handle me or my son. You've been getting by on your mouth for a long time now, Shane, but everyone is finally beginning to see right through you. When you finally accomplish something in the ring by yourself then you can start putting ads in programs and writing articles in wrestling magazines. Until then, I think you'd be better off spending less time writing and more time learning how to wrestle.

Ripper Collins

(Continued from Page 23)

an eye gouge. They must really be hard up for talent in California!

"But I'm not asking you to take my word for it. Ask anyone. Ask him! No, on second thought, don't ask him. I know what he'll tell you. 'Collins is a bum,' he'll say. 'Collins choked me and fouled me,' he'll say. That's a lot of bull. If you ever get the truth out of that creep you'll find out what a truly great scientific wrestler I really am.

"Pedro Morales, Verne Gagne and Dory Funk Jr. have all been in Hawaii recently. Do you think any of 'em would dare accept a match against the Ripper? Hah! Not one. They don't want to be humiliated.



Collins is unhappy about the booing that greeted the announcement of his triumph over Earl Maynard—the man who insulted Rip's wardrobe.

They know I've got too much class for them.

"Now you may think I'm making a big deal out of this clothes deal. I'm not. The clothes are only a symbol of the inner man. You show me a man who looks like a slob and I'll show you a slob. My clothes are only a symbol of my class. Maynard? Hell. He could spend a million dollars on clothes and still look like a slob. The man has no class.

"That's what makes me—Ripper Collins—the best wrestler in the world today. Class. There's just no substitute for it." □

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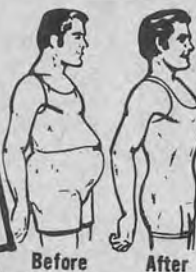
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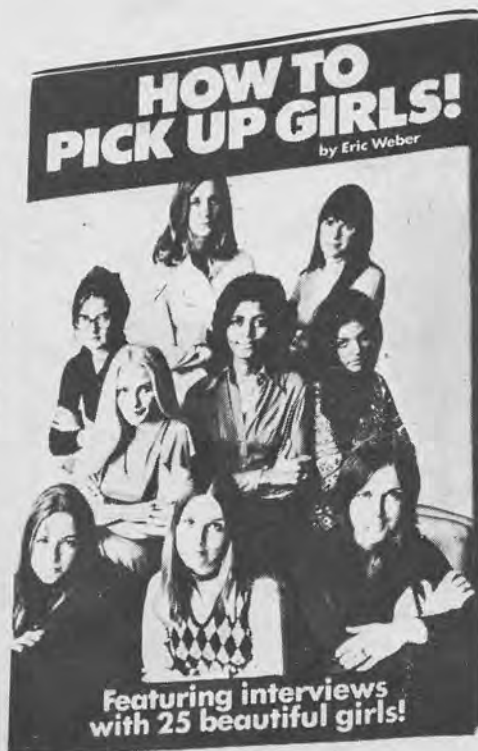
Here, for the first time ever, is a manual completely devoted to "The Pick Up." Now you can get the kind of girls you've always wanted. Not ugly girls. Or fat girls. Or girls with dumpy legs. To the contrary. NOW you can pick up *beautiful* girls! Girls with luxurious golden hair and soft rounded breasts. Girls with long sexy legs and pretty eyes and sensuous lips. Yes, now you can get the kind of gorgeous, delicious creatures you've always seen, always wanted, but never quite knew how to meet.

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I want you to know that you have written one of the best books of all time. One that was long overdue.

From a California swinger

It works! I wasn't even half way through it and I got a girl! Even my brother — who has taken out every girl in the world — said WOW! when he saw her.

From a prep school student in Massachusetts

I was at a pet shop and I saw this cute girl. So, following the advice in your book, I said something to her. We got small-talking about the dog she was going to buy. Then I said may I call you sometime. Her eyes lit up with pleasure and surprise. She said, "Sure!" and gave me her name and number. To make a long story even longer, we've been going out the past couple of weeks and have a groovy relationship going. She's a stewardess and a great woman.

From a 30 year old bachelor in Seattle

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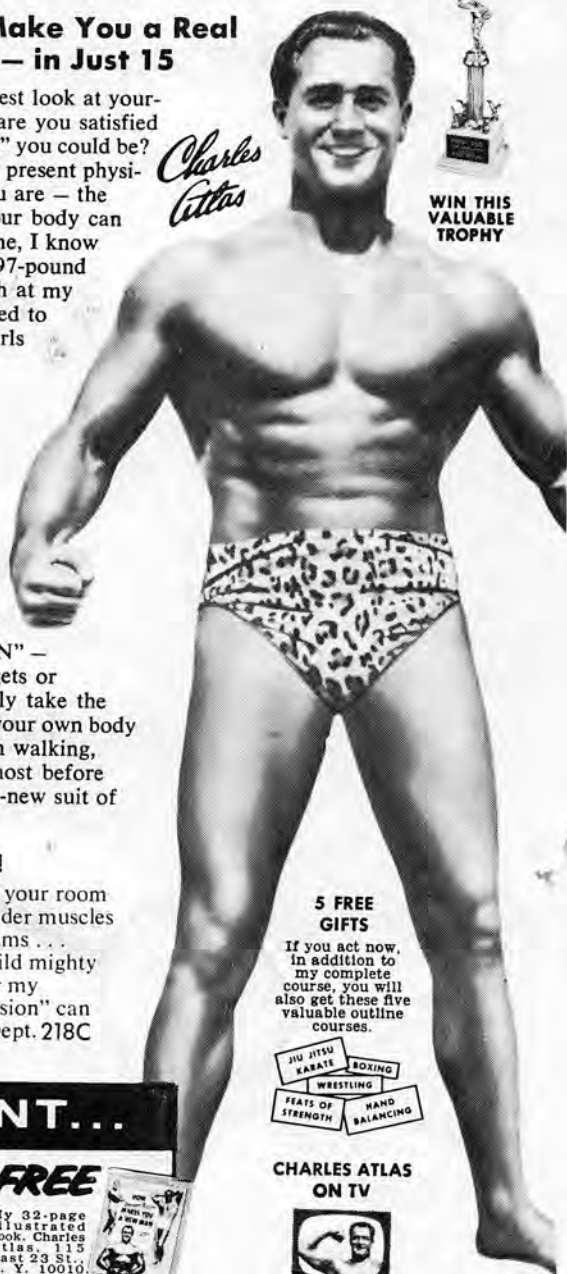
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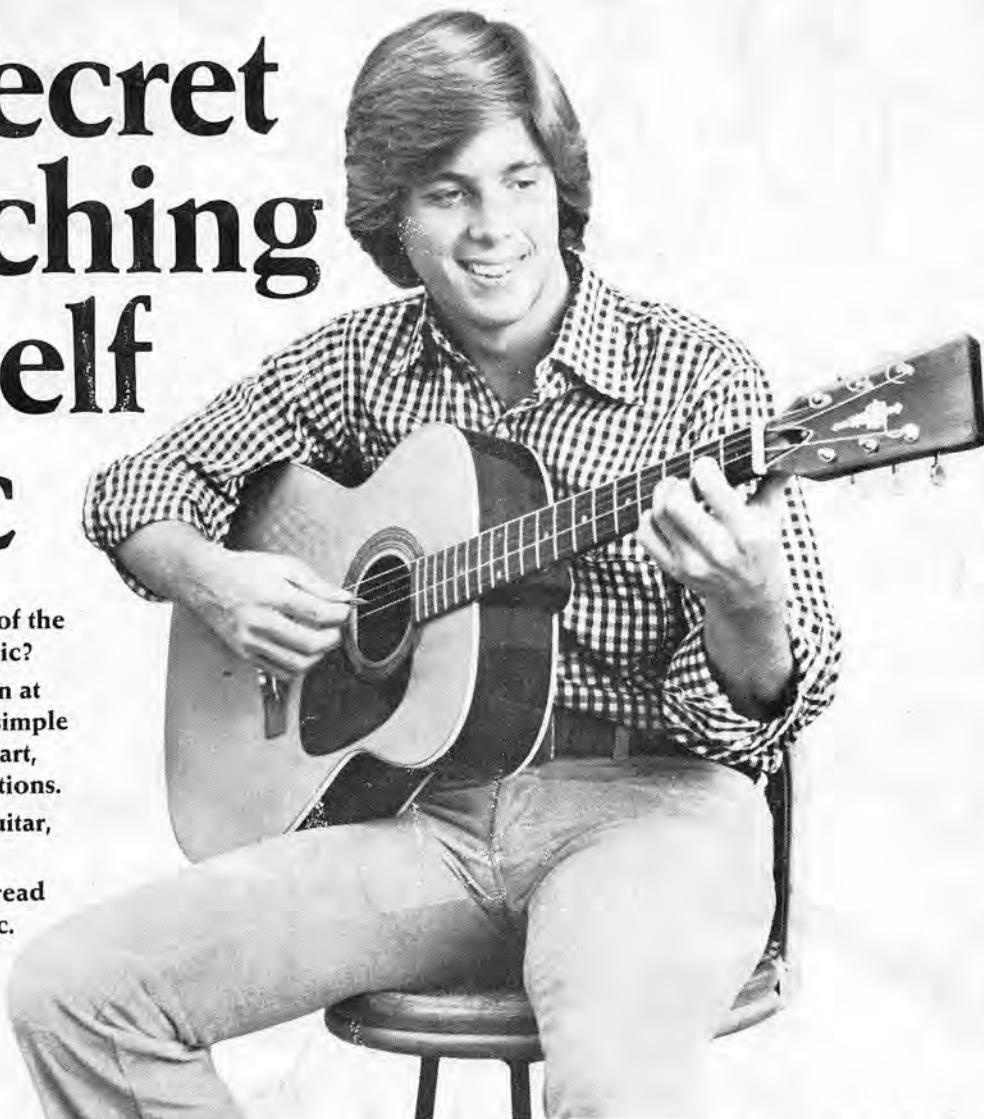
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